FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

From and after this date, no name of a new subscriber will be entered without payment in advance, nor will the paper be sent to such subscribers for a longer time than is paid for.

Such of our old subscribers as desire to take the paper on this system will please notify us when making remittances.

Jan'y 1, 1858.

WAR NEWS.

Another Victory in the Valley.—RICHMOND, May 26.—From a gentleman who left Staunton yesterday we learn that a courier from the army of Gen. Jackson arrived at that point on Saturday evening, and brought dispatches to Gen. Johnson, substantially confirming the above statement. Information received from private sources deemed entirely worthy of credit, assure us that Gen. Jackson was within four miles of Front Royal on Friday morning, and the town was occupied by about 1,500 Federal troops. We presume that it was this force with which he had the engagement reported, and the hope is reasonably entertained that he had succeeded in bagging the whole party.

We learn from a gentleman who left Winchester in the early part of last week, and succeeded in flanking the Yankee pickets, that the unscrupulous scamps have commenced a system of incendiarism in that town and the counties of Jefferson and Clarke. During the week they burned the Medical College in Winchester, in which was deposited the carcase of John Brown's worthless son, who met his deserved fate at Harper's Ferry. Donning's regiment of Cincinnati Dutch, which rendered itself notorious in Hampshire co. last winter, by burning and wantonly destroying everything within reach, had gone down into Clarke and Jefferson, and from lights continually observed in that direction, from Winchester, it was believed that they were indulging their favorite mode of warfare, by applying the torch to the property of defenceless citizens. A few evenings before our informant left Winchester, a brilliant light was noticed in the direction of Charlestown, and apprehensions were entertained that the town had been fired by the desperadoes.

Dispatch.

A Victory in the Valley and Recapture of Winchester.—RICHMOND, May 27.—We have highly important and encouraging news this morning from Gen. Jackson's army. The following official dispatch was received at the War Department during yesterday morning, which was duly bulletined, and created the liveliest enthusiasm:

"Gen. Jackson's forces entered Winchester yesterday, the 25th inst., capturing all of the enemy's commissary and ordnance stores. They (the Federals) tried to burn the town, but were too closely pursued. We took the First Maryland regiment, Col. Kenley, and the First Vermont regiment of cavalry at Front Royal prisoners, and two thousand prisoners at Winchester. Our loss is one hundred killed and wounded. Our troops are still in pursuit. The enemy are completely routed." In addition to the above, we received early in the day a private dispatch, dated at Staunton, announcing the capture, by the united commands of Jackson and Ewell, of Front Royal and Winchester, with 4,000 prisoners, and stragglers still coming in, with the enemy's stores, all accomplished at a sacrifice of one hundred men killed and wounded. The victory was regarded as very complete. Of subsequent movements and results we are without information, but we are most convinced they have been progressive.

Examiner.

Our Lines about Richmond.—RICHMOND, May 26.—There was some action on our lines in the neighborhood of Richmond on Saturday.

From such reliable particulars as we have, it appears that the enemy made a demonstration in the neighborhood of New Bridge and Mechanicsville on Saturday.

At New Bridge two companies of the 5th Louisiana regiment were surprised, the enemy having captured the only cavalry picket that was out. We learn that our loss in this engagement was about sixteen killed and thirty wounded.

On Saturday afternoon the enemy took possession of Mechanicsville, which is about four miles from the city boundary, on the road which extends from Eighteenth street. Three pieces of the Washington Artillery were placed across the Chickahominy, but our forces were directed to fall back to the other bank of the stream, which they did after a sharp cannonading. Captain Rosser was wounded in the arm by a fragment of a shell. On occupying Mechanicsville Saturday afternoon the cheers of the Yankee army were vociferous and might have been heard for miles.

Yesterday, there was an entire quiet on our lines, and not a shot exchanged on any portion of them as far as we could learn. In the neighborhood of Mechanicsville, the two armies are distinctly confronted on opposite ranges of hills not more than a mile apart. The enemy's pickets extend to the bridge over the Chickahominy, and our picket lines are not more than six hundred yards apart, a cavalry picket being posted directly in the turnpike on the other side of the bridge.

Yesterday the enemy were throwing up entrenchments about Mechanicsville, and planting batteries to command the bridge and turnpike.

About two or three miles to the north the enemy have possession of the Central railroad, at what is known as Atlee's Station. The situation is such as keeps the public in constant and daily expectation of a general engagement.—*Ex'r.*

The Savannah Republican says that forty to fifty Federals landed west of Fort Pilatka and marched to Welaka, where they were fired upon by the Confederates and twelve of the enemy killed. On Tuesday a barge containing twenty-one Yankees approached St. Marks. They were ambuscaded, and seventeen killed.

Burnside's Movements.—WILMINGTON, May 27.—It was currently reported in town yesterday that it had been ascertained that the Burnside fleet had left Newbern, destination unknown. We know this information to have been received in official quarters,—but we do not believe there is any *positive* knowledge of the fact of the sailing of the fleet. If it has left Newbern the destination is not yet known to our Generals.—*Journal.*

Interesting from New Mexico.—The Jackson Mississippian, of the 17th inst., says:

We learn from a passenger just through from Texas, that an engagement between 1,700 of Gen. Sibley's brigade, and 2,300 Federals, occurred on the 10th ult. at Glorietta Canon, New Mexico. Col. Scurry, commanding, had his men posted in the Canon through which the Federals were compelled to pass to communicate with Fort Craig.

About 600 of the enemy were killed and wounded, and less than 100 of Scurry's men—among whom, however, were Majors Raguet and Shropshire killed, and Lieut. Col. T. Sutton mortally wounded.

Gen. Sibley's A. D. C., Capt. Ochiltree, who was bearer of dispatches from Gen. Sibley, reported to our informant that the result of the battle of Glorietta would be the surrender of Fort Craig to our forces, and the occupation of all New Mexico and Arizona by the Confederates.

LATEST WAR NEWS.

Fighting at Richmond.—RICHMOND, May 28.—We learn that one of the trains on the Central road, when city bound, had a narrow escape from capture or destruction at Federal hands on Monday, but the engineer, with promptitude and nerve, applied extra power, and the train rushed through the Lincoln lines with great velocity and safely arrived in the city. Later in the day, however, a second train appearing, some negroes upon the road waved handkerchiefs, and made such gesticulations as to warrant the conductor in believing there was danger ahead, and having troops on board, he moved very cautiously forward until discerning artillery pointed on the track, put back with all commendable expedition. From possession of the road, the enemy retarded communication with our forces in the vicinity of Hanover C. H., and to prevent permanent or obstinate occupancy, it was whispered that a force would be moved forward in that direction to form a junction with Anderson and Branch, acting there in concert.

Arriving at a point at the right of the lines, (Nine Mile road,) we found the troops there drawn up in line of battle, with banners floating and ordnance pointed. Although in considerable force on the north bank of the Chickahominy, (near Price's and Garnett's farms,) the enemy seemed loth to appear and engage. They had ushered in the day with picket firing, and had driven ours in. We waited their approach. They skulked in the dense woods, but came not. At 11 o'clock, however, the regular booming of cannon told an action of some nature was occurring at a more distant point, more to the left, and in the direction of the Mechanicsville road. Proceeding in that direction, it was discovered that a sharp engagement was then progressing upon the farm of Mrs. Vaughn, some six miles on the York River Railroad. The foe had appeared in much force in that locality, but were vigorously attacked, and after some eighty minutes of lively firing, both of artillery and musketry, the enemy fell back, and our forces resumed their original position at that point. The particular force engaged, and casualties, are not known.

Scarcely had this brisk attack ceased than loud detonations on the extreme left told that meeting forces, near Hanover C. H., had clashed in arms, and that the grand overture to the coming tragedy had begun with great vigor and will. So far distant from our lines, (fifteen miles,) and travel thither retarded by guards, and the lateness of the hour, (two P. M.,) it was almost impossible to obtain information of worth; yet from all that we can gather it would seem that a force had been dispatched there to dislodge the enemy from the railroad, and to re-open communication at least to Hanover C. H. A part of Longstreet's division was said to have moved up and attacked in one direction, while Anderson's and Branch's commands, moving down upon the Court-House, assailed the foe in another. The fire of ordnance was regular and rapid, incessant volleys of musketry being perfectly audible for miles. After an hour's duration, the firing ceased; but was resumed again with increased fury between 3 and 4 o'clock, lasting, without intermission, until sunset. It is known that we captured some prisoners in the fight, (some fifty-odd,) and the natural conjecture is that the enemy must have been defeated.

That the great fight is approaching is incontrovertible; it is even said that Johnston crossed the swamp last night to precipitate a general engagement and bring his full force into play. Anderson, Branch, and the rest, at the Court-House, *must* form a junction, or they are isolated and useless; but to effect this by a vigorous demonstration may possibly usher in the great battle so long expected and so fraught with consequences.

Ere this may reach the reader's eye the first gun will have fired, and one long, lasting stream of flame envelope our noble army, battling as heroes never did before for freedom and for their homes! Let none tremble—let cowards herd with brutes—but let all raise their hearts and hopes to the God of battles, who gave us as birthright, liberty, and who always crowns the brave.

Additional.—About 9 o'clock last night, a train by the Fredericksburg road brought down 53 prisoners, captured in the first engagement yesterday afternoon. These all belong to the 25th New York regiment, four companies of which were detailed as skirmishers, and before they were aware of the presence of our forces they found themselves surrounded by the 28th North Carolina regiment. A brisk skirmish ensued, resulting in the capture of the number above stated, and the complete discomfiture of the remainder of the detachment. The prisoners think that nearly all the others were either killed or wounded.

These men state that little confidence is felt in the result of the anticipated general engagement by the rank and file of the Federal army. They acknowledge the superiority of our soldiers, and confess that in a land fight they have very little hope of success. They had heard of the splendid victory of Gen. Jackson over Banks, which they represent to have had an exceedingly depressing effect upon the private soldiers. Our loss in this engagement was slight.

Later in the afternoon, commencing about 4 o'clock, a terrific fight took place near the same point, but of this we have no particulars.—*Dispatch.*

The only particulars of the skirmishing which we have been able to obtain are, that the 25th New York Regiment (formerly Kerrigan's), commanded by Col. A. C. Johnson, and the 28th North Carolina Regiment, were engaged for about an hour, in the vicinity of Hanover C. H., 14 miles in an air line from Richmond. About eighty of the Federals were killed, and sixty taken prisoners. The Confederate loss is represented to have been only six or eight. The prisoners were taken to Ashland, and brought "on to Richmond" last night on a special train. The report of the Yankee loss is derived from the prisoners, one of whom confessed that they were "used up" in short order by the North Carolinians, and remarked that if the rest of our army fight after the same fashion, McClellan's "grand army" will be surely whipped when the "big battle" takes place. By way of explanation, however, he said that the Regiment *had marched from the White House*, on the Pamunkey, fully twenty-five miles, and was in no condition to fight. This forced march is significant.

Richmond Whig, May 28th.

The prisoners represent their loss as very great—one Federal regiment is supposed to have lost 300 in killed and wounded. The Yankees were guided to their position by a citizen of Hanover, whose name our informant could not recollect, but we are pleased to state that the traitor was captured at Ashland, and brought to Richmond with his Yankee comrades.

The prisoners say that they have never been in battle before, and that they are raw troops, just from Fortress Monroe. They also state that McClellan has a force of about 56,000.—*Enquirer.*

Further from our Victory in the Valley.—RICHMOND, May 28.—The following dispatch was received yesterday at the War Department from Major-General Jackson:

"WINCHESTER, May 26.—*"To General S. Cooper, Adjutant-General:*—"During the last three days God has blessed our arms with brilliant success.

"On Friday the Federals at Front Royal were routed, and one section of artillery, in addition to many prisoners, captured.

"On Saturday Banks' main column, while retreating from Strasburg to Winchester, was pierced, the rear part retreating towards Strasburg.

"On Sunday the other part was routed at this place.

"At last accounts Brigadier-General George H. Stewart was pursuing, with cavalry and artillery, and capturing the fugitives.

"A large amount of medical, ordnance and other stores have fallen into our hands.

"[Signed] T. J. JACKSON,
"Major-General Commanding."

From an officer who arrived here last night from Gen. Jackson's lines, we learn that the number of prisoners taken was 2800.

Gen. Jackson was pressing on to Martinsburg. The amount of stores captured in Winchester is said to have been immense, as it was the Federal depot of supplies for the whole Valley District.

We lost three captains in the fight; Captains Sheets, Fletcher and Paxton, the two former of Ashby's cavalry. Captain Sheets was senior captain in Ashby's command, and for activity, enterprise and gallantry had a reputation in the Valley second only to that of his commander.—*Examiner.*

The Spoils in the Valley.—RICHMOND, May 28.—The victories of Gen. Jackson at Front Royal and Winchester are fully confirmed by despatches from the old hero himself, published in this morning's paper. The material and moral results of these brilliant *coups de main* are believed to be fully equal, if they do not surpass, the combined results of any others that have been accomplished upon the soil of Virginia. At Front Royal the spoils of the victory were rich in arms, and included a sufficient number of splendid sabres, as yet unused, to arm the entire cavalry force of the command. At Winchester the acquisition of munitions of war was superb. The quantity of medical stores which fell into our hands was exceedingly valuable, and occurs at a time when their capture seems a dispensation of Providence. The prisoners, we learn, will be marched down to Staunton, and probably thence to some point in the South.

When Gen. Jackson entered the town of Winchester the Vermont Cavalry were panic stricken at his approach, dismounted from their horses, and fled to the woods. Their horses, twelve or fifteen hundred in number, were captured. The First Maryland Regiment (Federal) were quietly amusing themselves, principally in playing *Euchre*, and were taken prisoners, *in flagrante delicto*, and handed over to the gallant Marylanders of the Confederate army to be taken care of.—*Enquirer.*

Splendid Strategy.—The operations of General Jackson, which resulted in the capture of Winchester, formed a series of movements and combinations which have not been surpassed since the days of Napoleon. Jackson was at Woodstock. Banks, with his main body, was at Strasburg, where he was strongly entrenching himself. He had a strong detachment at Front Royal. Jackson made a demonstration against Strasburg with 5,000 men, who advanced half way to that point from Woodstock. With the rest of his army he suddenly turned to his right, fell upon the enemy at Front Royal, utterly routed him, and took two regiments. Banks, at Strasburg, hearing the firing, stampeded for Winchester. Jackson, however, was too quick for him. He immediately set out from Front Royal, suspecting what would happen, to cut Banks off from Winchester. The parties met at the junction of the roads at Stephensburg. Jackson cut the column in two. Part fled to Winchester and part returned towards Strasburg. Jackson followed the portion that fled to Winchester, took that town and 2,000 prisoners, and sent Stewart in pursuit of the fugitives in the direction of Martinsburg. The part that fell back, on Strasburg has not been heard from; but if it does not go over the mountains, doubtless care will be taken of it by the column of 5,000, already mentioned as deployed between Woodstock and Strasburg.

Let the reader look at the map, and mark the beauty of these splendid manœuvres. They are truly Napoleonic.—*Rich. Dispatch, 28th.*

Richmond and Washington.—It would appear from events in another quarter, and a lack of them here, that it was a part of Gen. Johnston's plan to draw McClellan's army gradually to a point near Richmond, while, at the same time, Gen. Jackson, in the Valley, decimated the army of Banks, and by menacing Washington to place the grand army of the Confederacy in the vantage ground here. These operations, whether carried out independently or conjointly, have proven a success, it would seem, both occurring in their details almost simultaneously. With the evacuation of Yorktown and battle of Williamsburg on the Peninsula, Jackson commenced his masterly descent into the Valley; with the evacuation of Norfolk, Jackson made another telling stroke; and, with the taking up of the present position of Gen. Johnston's army on the Chickahominy, Jackson "doubled" again and defeated the enemy at Front Royal, following it up with the capture of Winchester and the enemy's stores.

Less than three weeks ago there were not 5,000 Federal troops at Washington or its defences south of the Potomac. Washington threatened from the east would render the immense fortifications on Arlington heights valueless, while on the east there are no defences whatever, not even a redoubt. The distance from Winchester to Washington, in a direct line, *via* Leesburg and Alexandria, is less than fifty miles, attainable in twenty-four hours by a forced march, such as no one knows better how to accomplish than the hero of Kernstown, Front Royal and Winchester. We know nothing of the intentions of the two distinguished generals of the Confederacy who have conducted this strategy through its various movements to its present, and it may be, providential consummation, but simply recall the coincidental events as they have occurred.—*Rich. Examiner, 28th.*

Engagement in Southwestern Virginia.—RICHMOND, May 28.—We had news Monday evening of a disaster to Gen. Heth's command in Southwestern Virginia, but, as the intelligence of it was not entirely confirmed, and, at any rate, very unwelcome, we were not in any haste to announce it to our readers. From what we have since learned, it appears that Gen. Heth was badly whipped, losing two hundred men and two pieces of artillery. The fight took place at Lewisburg last Saturday. Our force was about eighteen hundred men, and, although unwilling to believe it, we are constrained, from the best information we can get on the subject, to think that our defeat was accomplished by an interior force of the enemy.—*Examiner.*

The Lynchburg papers confirm this so far as General Heth's "falling back" is concerned. But they say he fell back to a strong position before a largely superior force, after a sharp engagement in which we lost from 22 to 300.

Important Arrival of Arms, Etc.—RICHMOND, May 28.—We have received a dispatch from a trustworthy correspondent of the Examiner, giving the gratifying news that, before daybreak on last Saturday morning, two fine steamers from Nassau succeeded in safely making their way into a Confederate port. They bring valuable cargoes, including an aggregate of four thousand seven hundred stand of arms, about forty tons of gunpowder, with large quantities of saltpetre, block tin, quicksilver, and other scarce commodities. We have in our possession the names of the steamers, but, for obvious reasons, refrain from mentioning them, or the name of the place at which they arrived.—*Examiner.*

We are glad to know by a letter from a trustworthy source that the above is correct. The letter contains information of even more importance (about vessels) that it may not be advisable to mention just now.—OBSERVER.

Information from the Bar.—Reports from below state that the blockading fleet run off a propeller on Monday morning, which was trying to make this harbor. The enemy's vessels fired at her for some time, when she stood to the Southward.—*Charleston Courier, 27th inst.*

The Trans-Mississippi District.—Major-General Magruder has been assigned to take command in the Trans-Mississippi district, but will not, we learn, proceed to his post for some days, in view of the impending crisis in the immediate neighborhood of Richmond.

Examiner.

SMOKE HOUSE SALT.—Mrs. Margaret Grier has sent to the Editor of the Charlotte Democrat a specimen of 40 lbs. of good Salt made by her from the surface earth under her smoke house. She has no doubt that the earth lower down will yield more abundantly. Stock drink the brine very freely.

BROOM CORN SEED.—We understand there is considerable inquiry for this article. Mr. Geo. H. Makepeace of this place has on hand a considerable quantity, which he will gladly give to those wishing to use it.

Messrs. Editors:—Please announce in your paper, that the election from Robeson of Col. Alexander McMillan and John P. Fuller, Esq., to the House of Commons, and J. C. Sutherland, Esq., to the Senate, at the ensuing August election, would be greatly gratifying to

MANY VOTERS OF ROBESON.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 29, 1862.

HUZZA FOR STONE-WALL JACKSON.—Again and again this noble General sends us tidings of Victory. His latest—not his *last* we predict—surpasses all his previous achievements, and is in truth, if correctly stated, one of the most signal victories of the war. The capture and destruction of 4,000 of the enemy, with a loss of only one hundred of his own gallant band, is something to be proud of and thankful for. Let us hope that Richmond and Corinth will soon tell a like tale, only on a more extensive scale. We have great confidence in Johnston and Beauregard, and believe that they know what they are about; but we do wish that they had been able before this to strike. However, we shall be content to wait, if the result shall be what all so devoutly pray for, and what we confidently look for.

Jackson's future movements are speculated upon with much interest. What they will be, no one but himself knows—perhaps not even himself, for they may be controlled by circumstances. Nobody supposes that he will remain idle. That is not his habit. We see that at Richmond he is expected to make at once for either Maryland or Washington city. And we have heard of a letter received in this town from Baltimore which hints at some mysterious movement for which our friends in that quarter are prepared. Should he direct his steps towards either Baltimore or Washington, (from which Winchester is distant in a direct line about 70 or 80 miles,) we may look for a stampede of McDowell from Fredericksburg, for the forces at Washington are understood to have been greatly reduced to make up the Peninsular and Potomac armies for the march "on to Richmond."

The prospect brightens!

LATEST.—This morning's mail brings us news of what seems to be the beginning of the great battle at Richmond on Tuesday last. The first results are cheering. And we are proud to say that a North Carolina Regiment has the honor of achieving this first success. The 28th, Col. Lane—the same who was Major of the 1st at the battle of Bethel—were the victors in this preliminary engagement, of whom the yankee prisoners say, that "if the rest of our army fight after the same fashion, McClellan's grand army will be surely whipped."

The 28th is composed of the companies of Captains W. M. Norman, Thomas H. Edwards, S. D. Lowe, W. J. Montgomery, W. D. Barringer, J. H. Kinyoun, W. J. Martin, W. W. Wright, W. H. A. Spear, and J. A. Moody. We do not know the counties from which some of the companies hail. It is gratifying to see that their loss is very small.

NORTHERN AND EUROPEAN NEWS.—The Richmond Enquirer of the 28th inst. has received Northern papers of the 19th, 20th and 21st. From the United States the only item of interest is Lincoln's Proclamation repudiating the Proclamation of Gen. Hunter. Our readers know what Hunter's proclamation is. We do not think it proper to publish either his or Lincoln's.

From Europe there is an arrival with news to as late a date as the 6th inst. There is no great deal of interest. The Paris' "Patrie" says that the visit of the French Minister to Richmond was entirely political, and that its purport was known to President Lincoln. And on the contrary, the London Morning Herald argues from the reports of M. Mercier's visit to Richmond, that the beginning of the end is not far distant. It says France and England suffer more than neutrals ever suffered from any contest, and both begin to regard the war as interminable and atrocious. The London papers do not encourage Yankee hopes of subduing the South. And the foreign correspondents of the New York Herald reiterate their assertions of foreign hostility to the North and interference to stop the war.

NOMINATIONS FOR GOVERNOR.—Without having ourselves taken any part in bringing out Candidates for Governor, we have heretofore published communications recommending Gov. Graham and Gov. Morehead for that office, always an important one, but now vitally so. To-day we publish another communication,—which like those above named, comes from sources entitled to the respect of our readers, as they have ours,—recommending Col. Vance.

In accordance with our determination, heretofore announced, we have always intended to select from the candidates the man who may seem to us best fitted for the emergency. And in supporting such a one, we shall endeavor to avoid all intemperate zeal, our object being in this as in all things else during our struggle for freedom, to unite all parties and all men in furtherance of the great cause.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Numerous friends of Col. ZEB. B. VANCE take the liberty of presenting him to the people of North Carolina as an eminently suitable candidate for the office of Governor at the next regular election in August.

It is confidently hoped that he will not forbid the liberty thus taken, and that he will yield his consent thereto.

It is hardly necessary to add here, that Col. Vance, though comparatively young, has distinguished himself in the Legislative Councils of this State and the late United States. Immediately on the receipt of Lincoln's proclamation calling for troops to subjugate the South, he joined a company of Infantry and has continued in service ever since; has been regularly promoted from a private, by his fellow soldiers, to his present high position in the army, and more recently at the late battle of Newbern, he fully sustained the proud reputation of his ancestors for valor and heroism and won for himself in that bloody conflict an imperishable fame. Col. Vance is emphatically the man for the emergency now upon us. He is young and full of energy, prudent, well informed, bold and fearless. May he consent to this suggestion and be elected!

MANY CITIZENS.

May 20, 1862.

CANDIDATES.—Giles Leitch Esq. is a candidate for the Senate in Richmond and Robeson, and Messrs. Murdock McRae and James A. Rozier are candidates for the Commons in Robeson county. See also the advertisement in this paper nominating Messrs. Sutherland, Fuller and McMillan for the same places.

ANOTHER CUMBERLAND COMPANY.—A company of "Partisan Rangers" has been organized here. Rev. James H. McNeill is Captain, Mr. John McKellar 1st, Lieut. C B. Cook 2d, and Mr. Jas. D. Nott 3d Lieutenant. Lieutenants McKellar, Cook, and Nott were members of the Bethel Regiment; Lieut. McKellar having served as private and Lieutenant Cook as 2d Lieutenant in the Independent company, and Mr. Nott as private in the Lafayette Light Infantry.

A company of Rangers has been organized at Charlotte, J. B. F. Boone Captain, John R. Irwin 1st Lieut.

GEN. BRANCH'S REPORT.—We copy from the official paper at Raleigh what purports to be the Report of Brig. Gen. Branch of the battle at Newbern. No name is signed to it, and it is addressed to "General," but what General we are not told; yet we suppose it to be genuine, and therefore copy it, even at this late day, as part of the history of the war. Why it has been withheld so long, being dated two months ago, we know not.

THE MILTON CHRONICLE AT THE WILLIAMSBURG BATTLE.—Our friend of the Chronicle continues in his last his account of the fight at Williamsburg. To the particulars copied last week from his first instalment, we add the following incidents related in his last:

"While standing at a respectable distance observing the fight and taking the rain, a minnie ball from a random shot killed a man about one hundred yards in our rear, whereupon we deemed it proper to lengthen the distance between ourself and the enemy. We did not run, like some others, but we did tall walking, until we approximated the distance Gen. Johnston stood, or rather sat on his horse looking calmly on. We were amused at a remark of his to an old negro man that passed him running from the field; the General observed, "Old man, you are double quicking it in the wrong direction." "Bress de lor, massa," replied old Mingo, "de times down dar too hot for dis nigger," and he trotted on.

"We never witnessed a battle before, and will die satisfied never to see another."

Again: "The vanquished enemy we perceive from his newspapers, claim a big victory because our men were not there the day after they made the enemy run like whipped curs. And this claim looks plausible when it is said we left our dead on the field unburied. The truth is both parties ran, or rather we did some tall retreating one way while the enemy ran from us in another direction. If they call this a victory a few more like it will ruin them—may all their victories be such as this. They had 16 field pieces, and lost all but one. The rascals had a Confederate flag flying over one piece of their cannon which we captured. Another piece had a flag with the inscription "To Richmond or to hell!" We did not see this, but was told so by persons who said they did; but be it as it may, the motto was literally carried out."

The Junior Editor of the Chronicle, who is a member of the Milton Blues, 13th Regiment, furnishes the following list of casualties in that Regiment:—

Company A.—Killed: A. C. Totten. Wounded: H. C. Thompson, Joseph Gillaspie.

Co. B.—Killed: 1st Lieut. Joseph Thompson, R. S. C. Baker, J. F. Knox, E. L. Prather, Corporal R. L. Swan, J. F. Wilson. Wounded: Capt. A. A. Erwin, Lt. J. W. Alexander, J. A. Boyd, C. W. Brown, J. M. Erwin, Corp. W. A. Freeman, F. A. Hawkins, J. R. Kerr, H. L. Wolfe, S. H. Magain, W. S. Taylor.

Co. D.—Wounded: W. H. Bradford.

Co. F.—Wounded: J. H. Farchess, N. M. Igmer.

Co. G.—Killed: W. M. Hassey, L. Morgan, S. Pippin, J. Marshall, V. B. Anderson. Wounded: W. H. Adkins, Sergt. W. Peel, Sergt. W. Dupree, Corp. W. Andrew, Corp. G. W. Stancill, E. Andrews, W. Proctor, W. Alston, B. Parker, 1st Sergt. G. L. Brown, (slightly,) J. Tanner, (slightly.)

Co. K.—Killed: M. D. Hines, R. W. Stanfield, M. N. Ward. Wounded: P. R. Wright, Sergt. J. N. Justice, R. A. Maxwell, W. R. Totten, J. L. Ward, W. A. Walker, J. M. Martin, A. B. Powell, J. Taylor, Capt. G. P. Bailey, Sergt. R. L. Watt, (slightly.)

Missing—Co. B 3; Co. D 1; Co. G 4; Co. K 7; Total Missing, 13. Killed, 15. Wounded, 48.—Total 78.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—Near Clinton, Tenn., John D. Dalton, Thos H. Ammons, George W. J. Moore, and Columbus Matlock, of Capt. Bell's Company, 29th Reg't.

Near Kinston, on the 5th inst., E. L. Corbin, of Co. K, 1st N. C. Cavalry.

On the 9th of April, in the Goldsboro' Hospital, Samuel T. Sanders, in his 24th year. The deceased contracted his fatal malady by the exposure and fatigue of the Newbern retreat, being a member of the "Pee Dee Wild Cats."

On the 7th inst., of measles, at Camp Mangum, W. Hawkins Spain, of Capt. J. J. Davis's Company, 47th regiment N. C. troops.

In the hospital at Wilson N. C., April 26th, Mr. Hugh Keith, aged 33 years, 11 months, a member of the first company that volunteered from Moore county, "the Moore County Independents," Co. H, 26th Reg't.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

At Camp Mangum, Near Raleigh, on the 21st inst., of pneumonia, John G. Smith, aged 19 years, son of Quinny Smith of Johnston Co. Also, on the 24th inst., of pneumonia, Maloom Darroch, aged 17 years, son of the late John Darroch of Harnett Co., both members of Co. H, ("Harnett Rebels,") 50th Reg't N. C. T.

Three months ago these young men patriotically volunteered to serve their country during the war, but an all-wise Providence decreed that they should never witness the deadly strife of the battle field. They are gone, we trust, to that land where sin and sorrow is known no more forever.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Whereas, according to the dispensations of an all-wise Providence, our friend and brother in arms, WILLIAM HALL, has been suddenly taken from our midst.

Resolved 1st. That this company, fully appreciating his noble qualities, most deeply lament his untimely loss.

Resolved 2d. That we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the family of the deceased; with the assurance that his memory will be fondly cherished by us all.

Resolved 3d. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our departed brother, and to the Editors of the Fayetteville Observer, with a request to publish. ARCH'D McNEILL, Ch'm'n.

Lieut. H. R. HORNE, Sec'y.

CLOSE QUARTERS.—We understand that the Cavalry skirmish between about 50 of the 2d N. C. Cavalry and 200 yankee cavalry, of which we published an account in our last, is believed to have been the first real hand to hand encounter since the war began. The noble conduct of our troops on the occasion is worthy of all praise.

Exploits of Morgan, the Partizan.—ATLANTA, Ga., May 20.—Col. Jack Morgan passed through this city last night, *en route* for Corinth. Great anxiety was manifested by the citizens to see him and to express their high appreciation of his noble services, at the depots on the Western and Atlanta Railroad last night. He is represented as looking quite jaded from the effects of his recent hard marches and trying conflicts. He is of the opinion that 60 men will cover his loss in captured at Lebanon—only 4 killed. He rode 80 miles one day last week, and reached Chattanooga last Sunday morning with about 100 men, some of his men being now with Col. Starnes in Middle Tennessee.

From my friend, Mr. Berry, who accompanied Col. Morgan, last night, I learn that the capture of the two trains at Cave City, Ky., is a fact; but the amount of Treasury Notes taken Col. Morgan did not know, as he had not yet counted them. When asked by a gentleman, how much money he got, Col. Morgan replied, "he did not know; but that he had a sack full." The amount is largely over that stated in the papers. The Federals report nearly or quite half a million of dollars.

DIED,

At Little Rockfish, on Thursday May 15th, after a short illness, GEORGE BENTON, infant son of John A. and Emeline Williams, aged 2 years 2 months and 12 days.

Go, sainted babe! we would not call
Thy spirit from its heavenly rest,
Nor let o'er thee sad tear drops fall,
The fondly lov'd, the early blest.
For safe within the Saviour's fold
Secure from sorrow, want or pain,
Thy name, dear George, is now enroll'd,
And our sad loss is thy great gain.
List! from those realms of light divine,
There comes as from an open door,
A voice, that bids us not repine,
For thou art only "gone before." Com.

In Duplin county, on the 14th inst., JOHN KENNEDY, aged 85 years and 3 months.

In this county, on the 5th of May, Mr. ROBERT SMITH, Sen., aged about 85 years.

In this county, on the 20th inst., Mrs. MARY McDONALD, relict of Angus McDonald, at an advanced age.

At Meltonsville, Anson county, 19th of April, Mrs. MARY CHAMBERS, wife of Wilson Chambers, aged 48.

Splendid Victory in the Valley.—Generals Jackson and Ewell have smote Banks, hip and thigh, at Front Royal and Winchester, and have killed, captured, or probably by this time chased out of the Valley, his whole force!

Without pretending to speak positively, we think it probable from the report of his previous position that the blow at Front Royal was struck by Gen. Ewell. He and Gen. Jackson then, we suppose, moved in combination against Banks at Strasburg, where he had been fortifying. Whether the fighting implied in the despatch took place there or nearer Winchester, we are left to surmise. It resulted in Banks's defeat and flight, and the flight became a rout. The number of prisoners already reported is very large, exceeding the captured in most of the great battles of this war. The Commissary and Ordnance Stores taken at Winchester were doubtless very valuable—as Winchester we believe, was Banks's depot of supplies. All the circumstances justify the hope that a large number of small arms and probably artillery, fell into our hands.

Splendid advantages! But these are probably not all. If Jackson has been able to pursue his success, as we believe he has been, he has probably made large additions to his captives. He will again break the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, and destroy the canal navigation. He is in position to threaten Washington City in a manner that will compel McDowell to fall back from Fredericksburg to protect his own imperiled capital. McClellan will thus be deprived of a co-operation on which he has probably made large calculation, and will himself perhaps abandon the siege of Richmond, and fall back, if Gen. Johnston will let him.

If Gen. Jackson should turn his face Westward, he can pursue his destruction of the railroad—he can get on Fremont's line of supplies, and can by throwing himself in his rear, force the Commander of "the Mountain Department" to take to some of the cross roads and run for his life; and if Gens. Heth and Marshall will follow him up, they may clean out Western Virginia. In short, Gen. Jackson has struck a magnificent blow full upon the Anaconda's back; and it has told with admirable power! All honor to him and his heroes!

Gen. Jackson has conducted his campaign to admiration. He seems completely to have outwitted Banks. Surely, the latter would not so lately have sent away Shields, with his six thousand, to strengthen McDowell, and Rosencranz to help Millroy, if he had supposed that a thunderbolt was about to fall on himself! Jackson first fell on Millroy and broke him up and drove him back of Cheat, and before he could be reinforced and refitted, he falls on the apparently unsuspecting Banks, and scatters him like chaff! Three battles has he already fought this campaign, all brilliant, the last *eminently* successful.

The whole country is full of the praise of him and his indomitable army—and the whole country is right.—*Richmond Enquirer.*

Stonewall Jackson on the Northern Stock Market.—Nothing better illustrates one of the principal elements of Northern character, than the fluctuations of their stock market. Everything, of whatever character, whether material or moral, is there held as reducible to Federal money—to eagles, dollars and dimes. The late successes, and the pretended successes, of Lincoln's army, gave to his loyal subjects a large dividend of joy, and forthwith they ran to the Stock Exchange to invest it. Everybody was eager to buy U. S. bonds, and in consequence they swiftly ran up from a heavy depreciation until they rated higher than gold. The army had gained great victories, which were thus swiftly transmuted into private fortunes.

But these gambling patriots are as sensitive as they are excitable. They went "clamming at high water," and hence watch with painful interest every indication of a turn or even a stay of the tide. When McClellan cajoles them with a fancy such as that of his Williamsburg "victory," they evince their patriotic elation by adding five per cent. to the face of their stocks. If a day passes without some fond report to cheer their financial venture, they grow gloomy, and begin to despair of the republic.

The affair at Drury's Bluff has, of course, proved a terrible blow to the figures of the arithmetical patriots. "Bad humor," "blues," "film of shadow over the broad countenance of the public," are described as the effects produced in New York and Philadelphia. Had Richmond been laid in ashes and her citizens slain or made beggars, the same cities would have blazed with joy, and stocks would have ascended with a bound.

The glorious victory of glorious old Stonewall Jackson—we use his pet name out of affection, not disrespect—of which the account appears in our columns to-day, will throw Wall street into an agony. Down will go the figures, and down will come the aerial castles with which many a patriot has delighted at once his love of the "gul-lorious" and his love of the "main chance." So bold and successful a stroke as that of Jackson and his noble army, will not admit of denial or mystification. Banks so suddenly appearing on the thither side of the Potomac, will have to tell how he got there, and why he did not bring his baggage and his men; and his best gutturals and most cunning conceits will not avail to deceive.

In short, into all the courts of mammon at the North, Jackson has sent wailing and woe. But throughout the Confederate States and into all their borders, the hearts of the people will thrill with joy, and with a generous gratitude and admiration of the active and heroic leader, who is not afraid to trust to the heroism of his men, and who suffers not the grass to grow under his feet or theirs. To our gallant army, now drawn up around Richmond, the news will be animating and inspiring, and will make still stronger their eager wish to fall swiftly upon the foe who insults their front, and give him Williamsburg on a grand scale! To Beauregard and his brave followers the report will go as the harbinger of still greater good, and it will awake the heroes of Shiloh to new efforts in the generous rivalry between East and West for military glory won in fighting for their country's liberties.—*Ib.*

Vegetables for the Soldiers.—We have received a letter from a Surgeon of the Army, in which he dwells earnestly upon the importance, indeed necessity, of supplying our soldiers with vegetables and fruits, together with pickles, vinegar, and molasses, as both a perfect preventive and

OUR LATE OPERATIONS IN MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS.

We publish (says the Richmond Enquirer) the following exceedingly interesting letter from a young Missouri soldier to a lady relative in Virginia. It gives a graphic description of the toils and the terrors of the battle of Elkhorn or Pea Ridge, and of the marchings which preceded and followed it.

VAN BUREN, ARK., March 24th, 1862.

My Own Dearest Cousin—Sick, worn out, miserable, freezing by our smoking camp fires, I received your precious letter, and I felt like some huge load had been taken from my heart, and made me myself again. You cannot imagine, tongue cannot tell, how perfectly delighted I feel now on this dark, cold, disagreeable morning. I wrote to you from Springfield, Missouri; now I write again from Van Buren, Arkansas. How is that, you will ask—how came we here? I will tell you. Any one to appreciate the horrors of a retreat for two or three hundred miles, would have themselves to participate in it, and endure the grim reality of nights without sleep, days without eating, bivouac without blankets, and raging thirst without water; gnawing hunger without food, and the weary, heavy lassitude of extraordinary fatigue, without even a stone or a log upon which to lay the head. There had been some signs for several days in Springfield before our departure, that the enemy were concentrating in large numbers at Rolla, and threatening Gen. Price from two or three directions, but we privates, knowing too well the reliability of mere camp rumors, pursued the even tenor of our ways, and smoked longer and slept sounder than usual. At length it came—not unexpected certainly—but rather premature. One warm, sunshiny Wednesday, the 12th day of February, our pickets were driven in pell mell upon the main body, and Gen. Price's trusty scouts reported the enemy's force treble our own. It was a day of terrible excitement and suspense—a day of weary longing and intense despair. Thirty rounds were issued to the man, bayonets were fixed, hearts were fired, lines were formed, and everything betokened the wild death dance would soon begin. I said it was a beautiful day. The bluebirds came up from the South on wings yet warm with a kiss of the spring, and a few tiny wood flowers had broken the spell Old Winter wove, and opened their wondrous eyes just in time to see the sun grow hot as the lips of a bride, and hear the matin roundelay of birds that flew away when the last snow fell. I thought we would fight in Springfield—I looked for nothing else.

Our Division was ordered down to the public square at two o'clock, and there, with Bledsoe's battery in position, we waited till the whole army filed by—wagons, artillery, &c.—when we were informed that the army was in full retreat, and that Gen. Rains's Old 8th Division was to bring up the rear. Not a word was heard in condemnation. We knew who held the helm. We knew how the wild waves roared and raged. We knew there were breakers ahead, white with the foam of ruined thousands, and jagged and ragged with the scathing hate of more than twenty defeats, and we were satisfied to let our old hero pilot us through. Our train of wagons was nine miles long, for we had all our supplies from the South yet undistributed, besides a heavy train which just arrived the day we left. At 12 o'clock that night, we quit our position, and with the dull, heavy tramp of infantry four deep, we turned our backs upon the pursuing foe, whose numbers it were madness to attack. All that night, all the next day, the following night and following day, we slept never a wink. From soft south winds and rosy breezes it turned bitter cold, and the wind penetrated our light clothing as if boring with augers of ice. The night's march from Crane Creek to Mount Hopewell was the most miserable and terribly wretched I ever experienced. The snow was four inches deep, and the train traveled so slowly that we would have frequently to remain standing an hour, and that, too, when the blood was curdled, and the teeth chattering in a helpless ague. At Cassville the Federal cavalry, 8,000 strong, came up to our rear, and then commenced a stern, sanguinary fight for days. Ours was not a retreat in wild disorder, light with abandoned goods, and hastened by pell-mell scattering, but it was the dull, hoarse ebb of a full charged wave threatening every moment to turn and burst with fury on the chasing ship. Our old hero led every charge, his gray hair, hoar with frost, but his giant frame strong as the wing of destiny. His voice was calm as in a drawing-room, and his rallying cry rang out as merrily as birds in Spring: "Come on, my brave boys!" he always said, "Show them how Missourians retreat and how they fight!" I verily believe his men would follow him to the crater of Vesuvius. We kept retreating until we arrived at the Boston Mountains in Arkansas, about fifty miles from the Missouri line, tired, foot-sore, miserable and disconsolate, and there remained two weeks recruiting and preparing for the inevitable battle. On the 2d day of March orders were issued to cook three days' rations, and to prepare for a march upon the enemy. On the 3d Gen. Earl Van Dorn and staff came up, and on the 4th, in the midst of a heavy snow storm we started. Oh! the horrors of that wild, tempestuous day. Heavy, cold, and penetrating, the wet snow came down in pitiless haste, and we were saturated to the skin, and almost freezing as we walked along. We got over the mountains that day after marching 25 miles and camped at Fayetteville—that is, bivouacked. What I mean by bivouacking is to lay right down where you stop, make up a fire, and sleep on your arms. I could not sleep that night, for it was too cold; but remained by the red, glimmering camp fire, and gave memory rein till it came back with tired wings and drooping pinions. Behind us was the grim, gigantic shadow of the Boston Mountains, around whose hoary brows the storms of a thousand years had thundered, and upon whose rugged pinnacles the warm lightning had woven living diadems of sparkling light, while far, far up, higher and higher, the thunder cloud had burst in mid-heaven, till the skies rang with strange, wild music and the very earth reeled like a giant drunk. A young white moon, fair as a child on its mother's breast, was far away in the West, daintily curled up on a fleecy cloud. I knew that this same moon looked down upon your slumbers, and silvered all the scenes of my boyhood's joys and sorrow. I knew you were all safe, for God takes care of angels like you are; but oh, how I longed to be with you once again, to bid you be not discouraged, to tell you our cause is just and God is with us, and that

"The clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
With blessings on our head."

I longed to see Cousin S. with her warm, passionate heart all aglow with the burning fires of patriotism, and Cousin M. J.'s proud, stern spirit as defiant as the stars and bars the Virginia wore when she made James River the threatre of one of the most brilliant naval exploits history records. Long I sat thus musing. My comrades were asleep. One by one, the stars, weary with watching, died in a dream of transparency, and by daylight we started again after the enemy. Now comes a terrible record in my life's history, that is, terrible for its sights and sounds of unnatural horror. Thursday morning, the 6th day of March 1862, our army, commanded by Earl Van Dorn, the ranking Major General, General Sterling Price second, General McCulloch third, General McIntosh fourth in command, commenced its march at four o'clock, and kept up a running fight with the enemy, who were falling back for a better position. This fight lasted until dark, and I was standing by Capt. Tull's rifled Confederate battery when a six pound ball from one of Sigel's guns passed close to my head, killed Tom. Groves' horse from under him—(cousin M. knows Groves) passed through the skirt of his overcoat, went through another horse, and took off a poor fellow's leg close up to the thigh. I saw him fall, as the blood spouted almost in my face. We drove the enemy from this position, and halted for an hour's rest. At 8 o'clock we pushed out again, traveled all the livelong night, and came upon the main body strongly posted on what is called Pea Ridge, and about thirty thousand strong. Van Dorn and Price commanded the right and centre; McCulloch and McIntosh the left. When we left Boston Mountains we had only three days' rations, and this was the fourth day out, so we had fasted for nearly an entire day, besides marching one whole day and night, and fighting nearly all the time. Our force numbered scarcely eighteen thousand, and a great many of these were raw recruits hastily levied for the occasion. At daylight the fight began, on Friday morning, March the 7th. How shall I describe the horrors of that long and bloody struggle, where one hundred pieces of artillery shook the earth, and fifty thousand muskets poured out incessant peals of living, fiery death. The sun came up like a ball of fire, red and glimmering. About daylight one of our batteries opened far away on the right with a dull, hoarse roar, and I knew then the struggle had begun. Up with the banner of the South! Our ensign shook his silken flag free in the morning sunrise, and we raised a shout of grim defiance, which was soon drowned by the thunder of impatient drums and the rattle of fixing bayonets. Old Gen. Price, his blue eyes all battle-set, and his proud form towering in all the glory of his full regimentals, rode down our lines and smiled upon his boys as the father smiles upon his children. I heard his deep, full voice, and it fired his men like a torch passing along a line of ready gas-lights. He said: "Missourians, keep cool to-day—shoot low—give them hell," (for, sad to say, he swears sometimes) and off he rode to another part of the field. Presently, hoop! hoop! ping! came one mighty wave of shot, shell, and spherical case, plowing the trees over our heads, tearing up the ground all around us, and killing and wounding many in our ranks. Some few swerved from this tide of death, but our Colonel's voice rang out calmly: "Steady, men, steady,' and we breathed freer after the first shock. Of all the most terrible and appalling sounds to a man's ear imaginable, it is the sharp, agonizing whizz of a twelve pound rifled shell. It sounds like a mother's stricken wail when her first born's bonnie eyes are closed in death, and lays upon her bosom a broken sunbeam. We remained in this position about an hour, exposed to a tornado of projectiles that seemed to darken the air, and make music wild enough to tempt a devil from a fallen soul to dance a war dance over the burning marl of hell. Now our batteries gain position, and Bledsoe's old Sacramento joins the wild halloo, and little Clark, our boy artillerist, sings out with the soft, sweet tones his mother taught him: "Bring me some more cannister! Cannoniers turn out to No. 2! Forward a little—batteries advance *en echelon*!" All this passed as rapidly as I write it. Presently up comes Gen. Frost, one of our brigadiers, and sings out merrily: "Attention, first brigade! Sixth Infantry—(that's our regiment)—forward, by file right—march!" We filed off to the right at double-quick and went through the woods to an open field, but no enemy was visible.

Just in front of us was a low, dark piece of heavy brushwood, surrounded by a high rail fence. Behind this, and just in the woods, the enemy were concealed in powerful force. Gen. Price rode up just then, and, pointing to the timber, said: "Yonder is the foe—charge them!" Off we go, double quick, and sustained one of the most terrible fires ever borne by mortal men. Some of our men wavered for a moment; then with a wild yell we cleared the fence, and pursued the enemy for half a mile, shooting them down like sheep. Our regiment, about 600 strong—and it is a fact known by the whole army—routed three Federal regiments, and drove them from the field. We lost in the charge, (I mention the names, Cousin M. will know some of them)—Henry Bowers, of Lexington, killed; Capt. Powers, killed; Frank Trigg, badly wounded; Bill Benton, of Lexington, shot in the head; Colonel Bledsoe, wounded; Gen. Rains, our Brigadier, wounded; besides some forty or fifty others. Sam Watson, brother to Berry Watson, was shot through the hat, and Ed. Blewett, son of old Major Blewett, of Lexington, was badly wounded. John P. Bowman, of Lexington, our Lieut. Col., died the next day after the battle, from exposure and exhausting fatigue. I have escaped again without a scratch, though God preserve me from ever undergoing such a rain of bullets again. Now the fight became general on all sides, and the scene was one of grand and terrible interest. The roar of cannon was like a world in its death agony, or old ocean yawning with the last convulsive throes of the universe on fire. Great hell seemed to have broken through the earth's crust, and to be rushing at Heaven. Bombs were bursting, cannon roaring, bullets whizzing, sabres clashing, round shot goring men and horses, revolvers popping, men yelling, the wounded dying, or praying, or cursing, or imploring for water. And over all, wrapping the sky like hideous blister, was a dense pall of livid smoke, shutting out the sun, and hiding us as in a dark charnel house. Still the battle raged. Men—

Fought eye to eye and hand to hand—
Alas! 'twas but to die.
In vain the rifle's deadly flash
Scorched eagle plume and crimson sash—
The sabre hissed on high;
For down they fell in bloody heaps,
Like the ripe corn the sickle reaps.

Still the old Sixth bore her bravely in the fight, and still our silken banner rose and rested on the tide of battle. What means that cloud of dust sweeping round on our left flank and getting nearer and nearer. The Fourth Iowa Dragoons, one thousand strong, are coming down for a charge. Nothing can describe the feelings of men when charged by cavalry double their own number. The blood leaves the extremities and rushes to the brain. The earth reels, and the breath comes hard through teeth close barred. We formed in solid square—a mass of steel! On they came in all the coquetry of scarf and plume, sabres drawn, and spurs in gory flanks. Nearer—nearer! We could hear each other breathe, or a pin fall. A little puff of white smoke that rippled into a spray of bullets, a keen, close, deadly crash of Mississippi rifles, and the front ranks of the Iowa Fourth go down like apple blossoms in a sweet south wind. I passed over the ground about an hour afterwards, and Byron's memorable lines rushed upon my memory:

"There lay the rider, distorted and pale,
With the dew on his brow, and the rust on his mail;
And there lay the steed with his nostrils all wide,
But through them rolled not the breath of his pride."

In this charge they lost several hundred killed and wounded. But I tire you with too many particulars.

On the left, McCulloch and McIntosh were killed early in the day, and their men, mostly raw militia, without generals, became demoralized, and when night came on Friday, they began to scatter, though all day Friday the most of them fought like lions. On Saturday morning, the enemy being reinforced, Generals Van Dorn and Price thought it best to fall back, which was done in a consummate manner. Then commenced our sufferings, which will never be forgotten as long as any of us live. We had only three days' rations, and this was the fifth day out. For two whole days and nights nothing passed my lips but a little raw corn, which I snatched from the horses as they fed by the roadside. On Saturday I was taken prisoner by a party of Federal cavalry, when I was forced to leave ranks by a ravenous thirst. They fired a point blank shot at me not twenty feet off, but never touched a hair. They kept me some half hour, when I was rescued by some comrades, who killed and wounded nearly the entire party which had me in custody—thus again God delivered me from enemies, and I attributed it to nothing else but your fond prayers, that I know go up to Heaven continually for me. We were not whipped. On Friday we drove the enemy before us all day, and if McCulloch had lived, we would have pursued the foe. We lost no cannon, guns, ammunition, or anything else, but took three pieces of their artillery, burnt up Sigel's splendid rifled battery, captured about a thousand prisoners, and got off without pursuit.

There has been no official account of the battle published yet, and I have no authoritative manner of finding out the loss on both sides; but comparing all that I saw, heard and know, I would say our loss in killed, wounded and prisoners would be about five hundred—that of the enemy about five thousand. The difference may strike you as great, but if you only knew how we fought and how they fought, you would not be surprised. The enemy, though outnumbering us so much, were too badly cut up to follow, and we marched away without even a parting gun being fired.

On Sunday, after the battle, it rained in torrents for nearly the whole day. That night, with out a blanket or tent, we lay down upon the cold, damp ground, and had nothing to eat, save a little meal put in the fire and cooked ash pone-like, without salt. My feet were running ulcers. We had to swim creeks, wade in mud knee-deep, sleep on the ground, and eat nothing but what we could catch up on the road. I never endured in my life such hopeless, dull, aching agony, and a fatal apathy was fast settling down on the men—men who would have led a forlorn charge or crossed bayonets with some terrible Zouave brigade. But after suffering incredible hardships, and enduring enough to make one deny his home and his country, we got to Van Buren in camp. Talk about Washington and his sufferings—Cousin, I have seen men here mark the flint rocks as the walked with clotted blood, because they had no shoes, and could not get them. I have seen men in the midst of a heavy snow storm without coats, and have lain down myself with only two blankets, and the north wind blowing a hurricane, and slept never a wink the blessed night.

I have been in the service now nearly twelve months, have marched nearly ten thousand miles, have fought in four hardly-contested battles, besides innumerable skirmishes, and have never received one cent. When Missouri is free I will be satisfied. I am not fighting for money, and don't care whether I ever receive any or not; but if the South will only make common cause with us, then all is well.

I do not know when, or how soon we leave here, or where we will go when we do leave. It is now quite hot here, though only day before yesterday we had snow. Peach trees are in bloom.

I do not believe I shall be killed in this war, though I may. My time will be out in June, and it may be possible that I will come to Richmond. Nothing in life would give me more heartfelt pleasure than just to sleep one night beneath your roof, and not to be waked up by the infernal screech of the hateful *reveille*. I despise soldiering on the face of the earth—and nothing but principle makes me follow it. I am in for the war, whether in Missouri or Virginia. I know just as well as I know I live that we will whip the North, gain our independence, and be the happiest nation on God's green earth.

Confederate Money.—The Richmond papers have been urging their people to refrain from any and every exhibition of a want of confidence in Confederate money. It has even been intimated that there are persons at the National Capital who evince a desire to depreciate this currency of the nation.

We fully concur with the Lynchburg Virginian in saying that "This is not only unpatriotic but wicked." It amounts to a subversion of the very foundation of the superstructure of our liberty and independence. Destroy our currency by impairing confidence in it, and the Government is paralyzed. It will be left without the means of carrying on the war a single month, whilst the patriotic men who have given their whole property in exchange for this pledge of the Nation's faith, that the nation's liberties might thereby be won, will be utterly ruined. To say nothing of the guilt which attaches to the man who pursues a course calculated to discredit the Confederate currency, we may add that his conduct is as foolish as it is wicked. What better currency, except gold and silver, can we have? Are the State Bank issues any better? Not a whit. What is the basis of Bank issues? We answer, supposed values. But these are relative, and may fail us. With the exception of the little specie in the vaults of our State Banks, that might or might not escape the Lincoln marauders, of what avail would their State bonds, their corporation bonds, their stocks and promise-to-pay, be, if the revolution fails? All of the Banks are involved with the Government and when one fails all must go by the board.

We do not say this to disparage the money of our State Banks, but to show the folly of those who imagine a possible contingency, in which Confederate money will be worthless and the issues of our Banks good. It cannot be. All stand or fall together. We have staked our all upon the chances of a revolution, and if we permit it to fail we shall all go down together. Let no man amongst us, therefore, be guilty of the folly and madness of striking a blow at his country's cause, by contributing to subvert confidence in its currency, which is our only dependence for supporting armies in the field and for sustaining the Government.

The Wheat Crop.—A week ago accounts from all quarters seemed to promise a wheat crop of almost unprecedented abundance, but the continued prevalance of east winds and cloudy and wet weather, has brought on the rust which in many fields has already ruined the prospect, and fears are entertained that the crop in general will be greatly cut short. And so backward has been the season, that a large portion of the bottom lands reserved for corn has not yet been seeded. The Salisbury Watchman says that this is especially the case in that region. We however do not know that this is a serious disadvantage, as we have recently seen late planting recommended as a means of avoiding the damage of the long dry spells which frequently occur in midsummer, by putting off its critical period, the earing and filling up of the grin, until the season of showers in August.—*Hillsboro' Recorder.*

Cotton Crops.—The editor of the Wilmington Journal on his return from Charleston a few days ago says:—

Passing on our way through a pretty large section of country formerly devoted extensively to the cultivation of cotton, we do not remember to have seen a single field, although, perhaps we may have passed several; of one thing however, we are certain, and that is, that we saw field after field for miles, that we knew had in past years been given up to cotton, now occupied by a thrifty growth of young corn.

Domestic Salt.—We have in our office a specimen of salt, taken from the surface of the ground on the plantation of Mr. Harris Tysor, near Egypt, in Chatham County, and refined and crystalised by Dr. Emmons, State Geologist. It is a beautiful specimen. The salt, of a dun color, was brought to this City, in a vial, by Mr. Tysor. It is now white and pure. We learn that there are several spots on Mr. Tysor's plantation that are white with salt, on the surface; and Prof. Emmons is of opinion that with labor and care, enough salt can be obtained from this locality to supply the neighborhood.—*Raleigh Standard.*

Mr. Tysor sent a specimen of this Salt to us also, and we handed it to a chemist to have it analyzed, but have not learned the result.—OBSERVER.

Gen. Branch and Col. Sinclair.—James Sinclair, lately Colonel of the 35th Regiment, N. C. V., takes issue in some important points with the official report of General L. O'B. Branch, concerning the battle of Newbern, and pledges himself to prove, as soon as circumstances permit investigation, "That the battle of Newbern was lost, 1st. By drunkenness. 2d. Incompetency. 3d. Personal lack of courage and presence of mind in the presence of the enemy."

Chas. Courier.

A Wife who Knew how to "Let well enough Alone."—A few weeks after a late marriage the doting husband had some peculiar thoughts when putting on his last clean shirt, as he saw no appearance of "a washing." He thereupon rose earlier than usual one morning and kindled a fire. When hanging on the kettle, he made a noise on purpose to arouse his easy wife. She peeped over the blankets, and exclaimed, "My dear ———, what are you doing?" He deliberately responded: "I've put on my last clean shirt, and am going to wash one now for myself!" "Very well," said Mrs. Easy, "you had better wash one for me, too!"

We gave in our last the accounts published by the Richmond papers of the brilliant engagement between Col. Jas. H. Lane's 28th N. C. Regiment and the Yankees at Hanover C. H., near Richmond. They added that the engagement had been renewed late in the day, but particulars had not been received of the result.

In this second engagement, it would seem that three North Carolina Regiments of Branch's Brigade, the 18th, 28th and 33d, participated. We annex all of interest relating to the fight contained in the Richmond papers of the 29th and 30th ult.

The Whig of Thursday says:—

"The affair at Hanover Court House, Tuesday, was of a more serious character than we supposed. Our information yesterday morning came down only to the engagement between the North Carolina and the New York regiment, in which the latter was very roughly handled. Later intelligence advises us that after this quite a large Yankee force came upon the ground, and was met by three regiments from our side, who fought them until the overpowering weight of numbers caused us to fall back. Accounts differ as to the casualties sustained, but we fear they were quite considerable. The regiments on our side were from North Carolina.

"The most plausible version of the affair that reached us was that a portion of Gen. Branch's brigade, which consists of five North Carolina regiments and one Georgia regiment (45th,) engaged the enemy, Tuesday, at Peak's turnout, about midway between Atlee's and the Junction on the Central Railroad; that after the capture of sixty Federals mentioned yesterday, the 45th Ga. and 33d N. C. were sent around to "bag" a supposed small force of Yankees, whilst the 18th and 28th advanced to engage them; that the enemy proved to be in larger force than was expected, with two batteries, between which and Latham's battery, a sharp exchange of shot and shell was conducted for an hour or two; and that in charging the Federal batteries, the two N. C. regiments were exposed to a galling fire from infantry and artillery, and repulsed with considerable loss. The same informant states that the enemy lost heavily during the fight.

"No official information of this affair, we were informed, had reached the War Department, last night, and the reports were discredited, or regarded as gross exaggerations. All that is *certainly* known here is, that there was heavy firing in the direction of Atlee's, on Tuesday."

The Enquirer of Thursday says:—"The skirmish of Tuesday near Hanover Court House, commenced between a regiment of North Carolina troops, attached to Gen. Branch's Brigade, and an advance party of the enemy. Our troops gallantly repulsed the foe, took sixty-three prisoners, and pursued the Yankees back upon their main body. The Confederate Regiment now found itself fighting a whole Division of the hostile army; and consequently, in their turn, our men fell back upon their own brigade. Here the fight ended. The loss in killed and wounded is not believed to have been considerable on either side, though that of the enemy is supposed to have been the greater."

Thursday's Examiner says:—"From all we can learn of the conduct of the engagement it appears that, Tuesday afternoon, our pickets discovered the enemy advancing, and reported that a body of cavalry, supposed to be from five hundred to one thousand strong, was approaching our lines. On this information the 33d North Carolina and 45th Georgia were ordered to make a movement with the design of cutting off the cavalry force from the main body. The 18th and 28th Carolina were ordered to the front, and bore the brunt of the engagement, as the terrible suffering of these two regiments testify. We had but one field battery in the action—Latham's Battery. The enemy had several batteries on the field—certainly two. It is reported that the 18th and 28th North Carolina were ordered to take different batteries, and, on dividing, were raked by the enemy's fire in a most terrible manner. Nearly two-thirds of the 28th North Carolina regiment are reported to have been killed and wounded, or captured. We were repulsed and driven back with the loss of two guns, which were abandoned on the field.

Our loss in killed and wounded is variously estimated from 500 to 1000. It is impossible to form any intelligent estimate of our loss, so various are the accounts we hear of it.

"There are said to have been but three regiments actually engaged—the 18th, 28th, and 33d North Carolina.

"On retiring, our forces fell back in the direction of Ashland, and destroyed the bridge just beyond it."

Friday's Examiner says:—

"We learn that in Tuesday's fight, near Hanover Junction, Gen. Branch succeeded in getting off his entire command, with the exception of one regiment, which got out of position, but which yesterday effected a junction with the main body. The force of the enemy was largely superior to that of Gen. Branch. The retreat was conducted in good order to Ashland, where a panic suddenly broke out among our troops, and great confusion followed. Ashland is still within our lines."

Friday's Dispatch says:—

The heavy cannonading of Tuesday afternoon, and an uninterrupted musketry fire which accompanied it from the (supposed) direction of Mechanicsville, remains as yet a mystery. The whole of our troops in that vicinity were on the *qui vive*, and although feverishly excited, none can explain the affair satisfactorily. It is asserted, however, that the Federals, galled by Branch's successful ambuscade, (by which he captured fifty-odd men of the 25th New York,) had returned to the scene near Hanover C. H., (or Ashland,) and with a much superior force, had reopened the engagement, and cut up our forces terrifically. From the number and variety of reports, however, we are forced to the conclusion that Branch's force was unequal to the task of repelling the odds against them, and though bravely contending for every inch of ground, were subjected to very rough treatment at the hands of the 15,000 men under McDowell, and that his small brigade of 8,000 suffered severely. The train last evening brought down thirty of our wounded, and some dozen of disabled Yankees. When the train left Ashland, McDowell was within a mile of that place. It is true that Branch was eminently successful in the first attack in the morning, although defeated in the action of the afternoon."

The Wilmington Journal of Thursday has the following from the Quartermaster of the 18th Regiment:—

RICHMOND, May 29.—*Messrs. Fulton & Price:*—No Wilmington boys killed in the engagement of the Eighteenth Regiment on Tuesday.

Capt. Brown, Co. A, and Charles Flanner, Co. G, were missing yesterday at 12 o'clock.

About one hundred have been killed and wounded. Companies B, C, D, E, F, H and K, suffered most. In Companies A and G, the loss is very small. Company I has none wounded or killed. A. D. CAZAUX.

The Journal adds:

From a dispatch, not from a member of the regiment, we learn that the whole regiment, from Colonel Cowan down, greatly distinguished itself, taking and retaking a battery of the enemy three times, but being finally compelled to abandon it by an overwhelmingly superior force of the enemy. Of our loss in killed and wounded, we have not heard.

And the Journal of Friday learns "from private dispatches here, that First Lieut. George A. Johnston, and Private Stolter, of company A, (German Volunteers,) are killed. We have not yet heard anything from Capt. T. W. Brown of the same company, reported missing.

"Private Charles Flanner, of company G, (Wilmington Light Infantry,) reported missing, is known to have been taken prisoner."

The Petersburg Express has heard:—

During the early part of the infantry fight we obtained many advantages over the Hessians, and several times drove them back, but they were constantly reinforced, while we could obtain no reinforcements, and night closed with the Confederates in full retreat, leaving the Yankees in full possession of the field, and all our killed and wounded, save a few of the latter, whose injuries were so slight, that they had no difficulty in saving themselves.

During the fight we took four pieces of artillery, but they were all retaken by the enemy, who also succeeded in capturing one of our pieces, and still have it in their possession, for aught we know to the contrary.

Skirmishing in Eastern North Carolina.—The Goldsboro Tribune has the following:—

To the Editor of the Tribune:—GOLDSBORO', May 24.—On yesterday afternoon, Lieut. Nethercut, with 18 men of a company of Partizan Rangers, ambuscaded a company of the enemy near Mrs. Foscue's, nearly opposite to Pollocksville on this side of the Trent; killed three certainly and captured five muskets and the accoutrements of the three killed. The enemy retired and left their dead in the road. The above account is official.

And the Wilmington Journal of the 30th has the following:

ONSLOW COUNTY, May 18.—*Editors Journal:*—On the 16th inst., a body of Yankees arrived at the Cross Roads, and the residence of Mr. Wm. Cummings, in the lower part of Jones county. Their number was estimated to be about four hundred. They fired upon Capt. Walton's pickets, causing them to fall back a few miles.

On the 17th instant, three men, one a citizen and the two others members of Capt. L. W. Humphrey's company, proceeded towards the enemy until they came upon one of their pickets of about ten men, driving them into camp, where they raised such an excitement among the balance that they were soon seen going off double quick towards Newbern. Not a gun was fired by the enemy. They made a regular stampede towards Pollocksville, where they met with a pretty hot reception from the pickets of the 2d Cavalry.

The three brave men who run off four hundred yankees, were Thos. B. Henderson, Wm. H. Mills and John Coston.

Capture of the Gordon.—The steamer Gordon, under the command of Captain George Walker, was captured off Fort Caswell yesterday morning, about ten o'clock, by the blockading squadron. One boat's crew escaped, and the men report that no one was hurt. The mail was saved.

The cargo of the Gordon consisted of five thousand stand of arms and twenty tons of powder.

These are about all the facts we know. It would appear that the Gordon got ashore in trying to run in under the guns of the Fort.

Wilmington Journal, 29th ult.

We regret to learn that there were two ladies, relatives of Captain Maffit, on board the Gordon, when she was taken day before yesterday, off the Main Bar.—*Ib. 30th.*

From Fort Fisher.—Three Federal steamers amused themselves yesterday by shelling Fort Fisher and the coast along up for some miles. We are not aware that anybody was hurt or any harm done. The fort replied only a few times.

Wilmington Journal, 30th.

The Wounded of Col. McRae's Regiment.—The Richmond Whig is indebted to "a paroled prisoner who has just reached this city, for the following list of wounded (in the 5th N. C.) at the battle of Williamsburg, who are now at the Fort Monroe Hospital, and who are all doing well. Other wounded prisoners are known to be at the Mill Creek, Chesapeake and Baltimore Hospitals:

Lieut. W. T. Anderson, wounded in head, Jas. H. Marshall, Charles O'Neil, ——— Pitway, Wm. Rape, O. T. Pierce, H. F. Stone, Plygan Sykes, James Womack, Wm. B. Lead, B. Jones, E. Green, Wm. Fornay, Wm. H. Haro, Calvin Hays, Cullen Wiggins."

Arrested.—Two men giving their names as Lewis Valentine and George Harrage, were arrested night before last at Livingston Bridge on the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad, on suspicion of being spies, deserters or bridge burners. It is difficult to find out anything about them. They say they live in Echols county, Georgia.

Wilmington Journal, 28th inst.

Rust-proof Seed Wheat.—George Schley, of Augusta, Georgia, will soon be able to supply planters with his rust-proof seed wheat—not less than two bushels to each order.—*Chas. Courier.*

The Hail Storm.—The hail storm with which this neighborhood was visited on Thursday evening last was very destructive in its course. In this place only a few hailstones of very large size fell, doing no damage. But a mile southeast from here, the storm raged furiously, extending in width some two miles, and in length (in an easterly direction) some four or five miles, doing considerable damage to the growing crops of grain and the young fruit in the orchards.—*Salem Press, 31st.*

AUCTION SALE.

I WILL sell on Tuesday next the 3d of June, the remainder of my stock of DRY GOODS. I will sell goods at reduced prices till day of sale.

ALEX. JOHNSON, Jr.

May 29. 29-2t

SALT! SALT!!

CONSTANTLY on hand a good supply of SALT at my Store, a few doors above Liberty Point; will sell by the bushel or pound.

I wish to employ a few good hands to work in the Salt works on Topsail Sound, 11 miles from Wilmington.

P. J. HARRIS.

Fayetteville, May 29, 1862. 29-9tpd

BANK STOCK.

I HAVE A FEW SHARES

Bank Fayetteville, Clarendon and North Carolina Stocks,

to dispose of privately.

Persons desirous to purchase can do so by calling on

C. E. LEETE.

May 26. 28-13t

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

75 HANDS to Cut and Cord Wood and boil SALT. Being in the employ of the State making Salt, exempts from Military duty. Free negroes will be hired and paid promptly soldiers wages, and furnished rations, and should they fail to come up, I am authorized to impress them, and will do so immediately. Any one noticing this advertisement will confer a favor upon those wanting Salt, by explaining to and sending forward any hands, white or black. They must bring cooking utensils and bedding. Address or call on me at the office of T. C. & B. G. Worth, Wilmington.

J. M. WORTH, State Salt Com'r.

May 28. 29-6t

WAR NEWS.

Gen. Jackson's Victories.—RICHMOND, May 29.—The following dispatch was received by Gov. Letcher last evening:

STAUNTON, May 18.—*To Gov. Letcher:*—Banks has fled with his army in broken squads across the Potomac. The stores we captured at Martinsburg are innumerable. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad effectually broken up.

A. W. HARMAN

LYNCHBURG, May 29.—A Staunton gentleman who left that place yesterday informs us that the rumor was extensively circulated that Jackson had bagged Banks, several of his aids, and a daughter, who was staying at his headquarters. He did not know the source of the rumor or whether any reliance was to be put in it.

It was further reported that nearly the whole of Banks' army had been captured, and this we are told may be relied on.

Twenty-five hundred prisoners were at Woodstock on Tuesday night, en route to Staunton, and would arrive there to-day. They were those that were captured at Front Royal and Winchester. A number were at last accounts in the latter place waiting to be sent off.

The report that our cavalry had possession of Martinsburg is confirmed. They captured at that place a number of cars, and a passenger train, with a large quantity of stores, ammunition, etc. They also have possession of Charlestown, capturing at that point many of Banks' fugitives and commissary stores.

The result thus far of this brilliant achievement of Jackson, has been the utter annihilation of an army of 12,000 or 15,000 men, the capture of an amount of provisions, ordnance stores, small arms, horses, wagons, and camp equipage, almost incredible, and last though not least, the possession of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the main artery which connects the Yankee capital with the West. Truly may Jackson say in his dispatches, that "God has blessed our arms with brilliant success."

From Jackson.—RICHMOND, May 30.—It was currently reported in town yesterday that Jackson had crossed the Potomac and was now in Williamsport, Maryland. Although we could not learn that official dispatches had been received to that effect, still the information was very generally believed and we deem it more probable than otherwise. Williamsport is on the river above Harper's Ferry, six miles from Hagerstown and on the Fredericktown turnpike. This rapid advance of Jackson has caused great consternation in Washington and is said to have made the diversion in McClellan's plans spoken of elsewhere. We hope to be able to chronicle Jackson's entrance into Fredericktown, in which place he will meet with powerful additions to his army.

We are told that seventy thousand Marylanders stand ready at a moment's warning to join the standard of the old hero. Many of these men have arms hidden, and those who have none are ready to fight with scythes, sticks or brickbats. It must be a happy thought that deliverance is so nigh. The fact that Jackson is the first man to lead an army into Maryland will stamp him as the hero of the war, and will win for him the lasting gratitude of a people who have long suffered from tyrannous rule.—*Dispatch.*

Intelligence received in official quarters yesterday leaves no doubt but that *the line of the Potomac has at last been crossed*, and that a portion of General Jackson's command is now at Williamsport, in Maryland. The army having been once mobilized is in a condition to make rapid marches. It is reported that in Baltimore there were recently but three thousand Federal troops, and scarcely as many in Washington and vicinity.

Examiner.

From Corinth.—AUGUSTA, May 29th.—The Memphis Appeal, of the 23d inst., says that it is reported at Corinth that large reinforcements, under Gen. Siegle, had arrived on the Tennessee river.

The enemy's gun and mortar boats opened a furious, but harmless, bombardment upon Fort Pillow, Thursday afternoon.

A crevass occurred recently near Napoleon, Arkansas. The place has been completely under water. A large lot of sugar was destroyed.

From Corinth.—RICHMOND, May 29.—By an arrival in this city, we have intelligence from Corinth and vicinity, which, if true, is highly important, and may ere this have hastened matters to an issue in that direction. When our informant left it was reported that Gen. Beauregard had succeeded in cutting off Halleck's supplies by railroad, and his only means of communication was by the Tennessee river, which was falling very rapidly, and would soon be unnavigable. It was supposed Halleck would be compelled to fall back, in which event Gen. Beauregard would attack him.—*Ex.*

From Savannah.—SAVANNAH, May 29th—Two large Yankee steamers came up the river yesterday, and fired several shots—supposed to be at our batteries. The Federals also sent up balloons Tuesday morning and afternoon.

AUGUSTA, Ga., May 30.—The Savannah papers of this morning say it is reported that a fight took place on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad yesterday, supposed at Pocotaligo.

Latest from Vicksburg.—MOBILE, May 29.—A special dispatch to the Advertiser from Vicksburg, dated May 28th, says that the enemy's gunboats have taken position within range of our batteries, and expect to open on the city at any moment. Our batteries have not yet fired a shot.

About sundown last evening a Federal gunboat and sloop-of-war opened on our batteries at long range. Our batteries drove them back, when the enemy opened on the lower battery. About twenty shots were exchanged, when the enemy retired.

Destruction of President Davis's Residence.—AUGUSTA, May 29.—The Vicksburg Citizen says that the enemy have battered down and completely destroyed President Davis's residence; also, that of Joe Davis.

The DeSoto Depot, opposite Vicksburg, was burnt Thursday night—supposed to have been fired by the Yankees.

The Federals have been committing serious depredations below Vicksburg.

Scenes in Winchester.—When our men [Jackson's army] entered Winchester the scene is described as affecting beyond measure. The streets were crowded with all sexes, ages and classes, who enthusiastically welcomed their deliverers. Old men, with tears of joy streaming down their withered cheeks, and eyes uplifted to heaven, called down blessings on the heads of the bronzed veterans to whom they owed their freedom. Beautiful women crowded around them, and vied with each other in acts of kindness to the wearied soldiers, and amid the cheers and prayers of all, our brave men pressed on after the flying foe.

Lynchburg Virginian.

SALT.

50 BUSHELS for sale by W. B. SHEMWELL.

May 29, 1862. 29-2t

AVON E. HALL.

Forwarding & Commission Merchant,

WILL give quick despatch to goods so. signed to him. Particular attention given to all produce sent him for sale. Consignments of Naval Stores, for sale or shipment, solicited.

WILMINGTON, Jan'y 19, 1862. 92ily

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 2, 1862.

THE PAST WEEK.—Contrary to all expectation, the week has gone by without a great battle at either Richmond or Corinth. Every day we have been assured that that at Richmond was at hand; but every day it was deferred to the next. We shall not be surprised to hear to-morrow that one or both have been fought.

The week has been prolific of important events in Jackson's department. He has certainly accomplished great things, but it is not certain that he has crossed the Potomac into Maryland, much less is there any probable foundation for the wild stories that he was at the Relay House, that he had captured Baltimore, and that he was on the way to Philadelphia.

A story published in Richmond on Friday that McClellan was retreating was contradicted on Saturday. The Examiner says that he cannot retreat, that "he has arrived at the point in his road where the fork is. One way now leads to Richmond; the other road goes straight to Fort Lafayette. There are no others. When he ceases to travel the road to Richmond, whether he intends going back to Washington or elsewhere, he is gone to Fort Lafayette."

OUR REGIMENTS FIGHTING IN VIRGINIA.—In our last we gave the particulars, as far as we had them, of a gallant fight of Col. Lane's 28th Regiment, near Hanover C. H., Va. It subsequently appears that that and two other Regiments of Gen. Branch's Brigade, the 18th and 33d North Carolina, had a second severe fight with a much larger force of the yankees in the same vicinity. The accounts being somewhat conflicting, we have copied on the preceding page all that the papers furnish in regard to it. We fear that the loss on our side has been serious.

We gave the composition of Col. Lane's (28th) Regiment in our last.

The 18th Regiment is commanded by Col. Robert H Cowan, of Wilmington, Lieut. Col. Thomas J. Purdie of Bladen, and Major Forney George of Columbus. It consists of the following companies:

A, Capt. Cornehlson, Wilmington.
B, " Robert Tait, Bladen.
C, " George, Columbus.
D, " Wm. S. Norment, Robeson.
E, " Hawes, New Hanover.
F, " Malloy, Richmond.
G, " Savage, Wilmington.
H, " Gore, Columbus.
I, " Williams, Wilmington.
K, " W. S. Devane, Sampson.

We give the names of the original Captains, of whom probably very few are now at the head of the companies, some having been promoted, some resigned, and some superseded.

By the Adjutant General's statement in Dec last, it contained 918 men, of whom 102 were from Bladen, 176 from Columbus, 349 from New Hanover, 99 from Richmond, 94 from Robeson, 92 from Sampson.

The 33d is Col. Avery's, but, he having been captured at Newbern, Lieut. Col. Robert F. Hoke (Major of the Bethel Reg't,) is now in command. It is composed of the following companies, (as originally officered:)—

Co. A, Capt. Jenkins.
B, " Mayhew.
C, " Parks.
D, " R. V. Cowan.
E, " Keeler.
F, " Stowe.
G, " Wooten.
H, " Swindell.
I, " Parker.

With a company, unknown to us, added since the Adjutant General's Report from which we get these.

The nine companies above contained only 608 men on the 1st of Dec. last, from the following counties, viz: Cabarrus 97, Cumberland 88, Edgecombe 88, Forsyth 80, Guilford 1, Hertford 7, Hyde 151, Iredell 38, Martin 7, Nash 2, Pitt 29, Wilkes 81.

It will be seen that a Cumberland company was engaged in this fight, for the second time, it having been under fire at Newbern. Our county has been represented by one or more companies in most of the battles fought in the Atlantic States.

This morning's mail brings us the following further articles in regard to this engagement:—

THE LATE FIGHT AT HANOVER.

RICHMOND, Va., May 30, 1862.

To the Editor of the Examiner:—I give you an exact account of the fight at Lebanon Church, in Hanover county, on the 27th, and hope you will let the people know something of that severe and unequal contest.

About 11½ A. M., a captain of the Virginia cavalry informed Col. Charles C. Lee, of the 37th N. C. troops, that the enemy was advancing, but that he believed it to be a mere marauding party, which might be captured by prompt action. Gen. Branch was at his headquarters, more than a mile distant, and, as no time could be lost, Col. Lee at once sent three of his companies, under Lieut. Col. Barber, to meet them, and notified Gen. Branch of the same. Col. Lee soon ascertained that the enemy was advancing in considerable force; he, therefore, sent forward the remainder of his regiment, and placed it in line of battle across the road, and sent back for Capt. Latham's artillery to reply to a battery which had opened upon his regiment. He also asked Col. Wade, of the 12th N. C. troops, to place his regiment in the woods on the right to prevent a flank movement; he then deployed company A of the 37th as skirmishers, to protect the left flank.

Capt. Latham, with two guns of his battery, came forward and replied vigorously for a short time, until a shell was thrown into his caisson, which caused it to explode, killing two men and two horses and wounding seven men. Our guns now ceased to fire while moving back the disabled section. Company F, of the 37th, now opened fire with Enfield rifles upon the advance of the enemy and put him to flight, killing a lieutenant and two of his men. The enemy now retired from view, having engaged us for two hours. Gen. Branch about this time came upon the field, and ordered the 18th and 37th forward to support Col. Lane's 28th N. C. troops, which had been sent early in the morning to support two companies of the 37th, on picket some four miles distant. These two regiments commenced to advance in charge of Col. Lee, the respective regiments being commanded by Col. Cowan, of the 18th, and Lieut.-Col. Barber, of the 37th. Col. Lee soon ascertained that the enemy had planted a battery of artillery on a hill in front of him, with a strong infantry support. This was reported to Gen. Branch. Gen. Branch ordered Col. Lee to charge the battery with the 18th and 37th. Col. Lee sent to the general asking him to cause Latham to engage the battery and to send up other infantry support for the 18th and 37th.

The 18th and 37th commenced the charge—the 18th sweeping gallantly through an open field in the face of a terrible fire with good effect. At the same time the 37th advanced with rapidity and steadiness through a dense forest, in which the undergrowth was so thick that a man could not be seen more than thirty steps. The 37th rushed forward with enthusiasm until it encountered the Yankees, who were concealed behind logs, trees, and in the cut of a roadway, which was bordered by a fence of cedar brush. Here the enemy had every advantage of position, while his force was vastly superior; but Col. Lee's men stood like veterans. Officers and men stood firm as rocks within fifteen or twenty paces of the Yankee line. Volley after volley of grape from their cannon and of Minnie balls from their infantry mowed down our men, still the 37th moved forward, driving the enemy before it. Unable to stand the well-directed fire of the 18th and 37th, the enemy fled from his battery, leaving his flag on the field. While these two regiments were fighting as only brave men can fight, and were driving from his position an enemy of six regiments of infantry and one battery of artillery, strange to say no assistance was sent to them, though Gen. Branch had at his side a battery of artillery and four regiments of infantry. At last, when no longer able to stand alone against such heavy odds, the two regiments fell back, stubbornly contesting the ground as they retired. They had fought long, especially the 37th which had been under fire for nearly six hours. Their loss was very heavy. The 37th had only seven companies on the field (companies D and E being on picket, and company B being detailed to guard the wagon train), yet it lost 160 in killed, wounded and missing, more than one out of every three men. The loss of the 18th was quite severe, they leaving some 160 of their men on the field. Col. Campbell's 7th and Col. Wade's 12th N. C. troops now covered the retreat, holding the enemy in check in fine style. None of our other troops were in the action except Capt. Saunders' company of the 33d N. C. troops, which, while deployed as skirmishers, captured a Yankee hospital, and with it a surgeon, four men and ten horses. The hospital contained 49 wounded yankees. Their loss was quite severe—greater, perhaps, than our own, including a field officer.

Our officers all behaved well. Col. Lee and Maj. Hickerson were both knocked from their horses by shells. Lt. Col. Barber's horse was killed under him, and he was slightly wounded in the neck. Adj't Nicholson's horse was killed and came very near falling upon him.

Col. Lane's regiment was entirely cut off, and had to take care of itself. Col. Lane has cause to be proud of his men. They encountered the advanced regiment of the enemy and killed some 80 or more, and captured some 88 prisoners, who were sent to Richmond, besides others who afterwards escaped.

Col. Lane was then opposed by a superior force, which almost entirely surrounded him, yet he conducted his command off, and reached Richmond yesterday. His loss, however, is great, as many of his men broke down, and it is believed were captured by the yankee cavalry. Capts. Ashcraft and Farthing, of the 37th, with some 140 men, were on picket, and started to Col. Lane when they heard his firing. Capt. Ashcraft, with 44 of his men, and 15 of Capt. Farthing's, escaped; the rest, it is feared, were captured.

The above is a true statement of the facts, which will make the battle of Lebanon Church a sad, but, so far as the men, company and regimental officers are concerned, a brilliant affair for North Carolinians. Of the rest the public must judge. I am, sir, &c.

"HANOVER."

From the Wilmington Journal, 31st.

All that we have learned additional is, that Capt. Brown of the German Volunteers, is a prisoner, and that Capt. Sikes, of the Bladen Light Infantry, is killed. Capt. Sikes fell gallantly leading his men; he died like a brave man with his face to the foe, telling the member of his company, into whose arms he fell, to never mind him, but push forward. The Bladen companies are reported to have lost very heavily, as also those from Columbus and Richmond, but we trust that the reports may prove to be exaggerated.

It was stated at the Adjutant General's office, last evening, that authentic information had been received of the affair in Hanover, on Tuesday, showing that our loss had been greatly exaggerated. Whatever our loss may have been, it is some consolation to know that the enemy suffered as much, if not more, the New York 25th having been "used up."—*Rich. Whig, 31st.*

MR. STANLY.—WE GIVE IT UP.—We had faith in the personal assurances of the Hon. Edward Stanly, made two or three years ago (as stated in the Observer of the 5th ult.,) and therefore did not credit the report that he had been appointed Lincoln Governor of North Carolina, or, if he had been so appointed, that he would accept. But we are now forced to believe that our confidence in him was misplaced, and that he is untrue to the land of his birth. May he meet the fate due to his faithlessness! The following is from a N. Y. paper:—

NEW YORK, May 24.—The U. S. steam transport Gen. Burnside sailed yesterday afternoon for Beaufort, N. C., Hilton Head, Roanoke Island and Port Royal. She has a cargo of subsistence stores and ordnance; also a large mail.

Among her passengers are Gov. Stanly and suite, N. C.; Charles Henry Foster, Esq.; Rev. J. B. Clark, Chaplain Twenty-third Massachusetts Volunteers; Rev. Peter Thomas, Chaplain Fifty-first New York Volunteers; Sergeant J. U. C. Smith; Lieut. Col. Robt. B. Butler; also seventy North Carolina prisoners released on parole, who are under charge of Governor Stanly. These men are all strong secessionists and refused to take the oath of allegiance to the U. States.

In addition to the above, we find, copied from the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, a paragraph from an address issued by Mr. Stanly to his friends in California. We copy the paragraph, merely to show our readers how a faithless man can deceive himself, or his friends. The wicked stratagem that he talks of, was a yankee determination to subjugate the South; the separation is final; his olive branch should be held out to Lincoln, North Carolina will scorn it; and Mr. Stanly will find hundreds of thousands of enemies, and we hope not a single friend. Speaking of North Carolina he says:—

"They have always hated secession; always were devoted to the Union, and never freely yielded to evil influences, or consented to a separation, until made to believe, by wicked stratagem, that their own government had declared war against them. I go to hold out the olive branch of peace on terms such as a man endorsed by you could offer, and such as a brave people can honestly accept. With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, I return, temporarily, to my old home on a mission of love, to a State among whose citizens I hope I have not a single enemy; whose wide borders contain not a single man to whom it would not afford me pleasure to do a kindness. I return to old friends, whose favors compelled me, in the performance of sacred duties, to leave the heart-corroding cares, and the impoverishment of public service."

PANIC STRUCK.—The Wilmington Journal is terribly frightened by a correspondent of ours who furnished an account of the late engagement at Fort Fisher, and very considerately lectures him and us as to our conduct. We beg to assure our contemporary that we have some reason to suppose that we are quite capable of managing our own business. If we find it otherwise and need advice, it will be sought from some other paper than the Journal, which is by far more indiscreet in its publications than any paper we know of in the State, and not very far behind the Richmond Examiner, the most indiscreet out of it. To say nothing of the Journal's very indiscreet comments upon the conduct of public affairs (indiscretions not lessened by regularly taking them all back) and its frequent publications about the Arsenal here, the same issue of the Journal to which we are replying is full of (according to its own views) very improper publications. Directly under the paragraph in which it coolly undertakes to lecture us, it furnishes the Yankee blockaders with a most proper budget of information about things in Maryland. And in the next column to that in which it lectures (along with the Observer) the Standard and its correspondent for publishing something about "the character and progress of our gunboat," &c., is an epistle from a correspondent of its own about the *non*-progress of an iron-clad floating battery, the small number of men and guns on the floating battery in the Cape Fear, and much else of the same sort!

We don't know what the Standard's correspondent said, but if he furnished the blockaders with no more information than our correspondent did, the only sin he has to answer for is a small one, and consists in publishing a letter in a newspaper the Journal does not like. The whole thing is a very small exhibition of the Journal's personal and political spite.

The Observer might save time and space, if *it can*, by giving the name of "a leading North Carolina politician" of "the Journal's party" "who has never become a citizen of a Northern State, who is now in well known affiliation with the North." Two or three words would no doubt give the name in full, and less than a line would contain it, and yet the Observer finds it easier to spread its bile over a very considerable space,—cause why,—it has the bile in abundance and to spare. It don't seem so ready with the *name*.—*Wil. Journal.*

Allow us to parody the above, thus:—

The Journal might quiet it conscience, *if it have one*, by publishing side by side its two contradictory articles about Fayetteville, and confessing that the latest was a deliberate and malignant slander upon our town. But the Journal finds it easier to invent new slanders than to atone for old ones,—cause why,—it has the inventive habit powerful, but don't seem so ready with the *truth*.

COMPLIMENTARY.—The 4th Alabama regiment, (among the heroes of Manassas) lately presented to their Brig. General, Whiting, a magnificent horse, costing $1000.

The members of Captain Strange's cavalry from this county, 2d cavalry regiment, recently showed a similar mark of respect for their Lieutenant, Joseph Baker, Jr. of this town.

THE WHEAT CROP.—A friend on Deep River, in Chatham county, writes us as follows:—

"Much anxiety is felt about the wheat crop, as rust has made its appearance on the *blades*, in consequence of the unusually wet season and cold nights, though it is by no means so serious an injury as when it occurs on the straw. As yet it is impossible to estimate the yield, but the early variety seems to be pretty well filled, notwithstanding the blades are covered with rust."

FAYETTEVILLE AND FLORIDA.—A friend in Florida writes to us as follows:

"Old Fayetteville has done nobly in the present struggle. I have watched and gloried in her every movement, whether emanating from her sons or daughters; and her conduct has recalled to my mind a remark made some 10 years ago by ————, that Fayetteville has the best *basis* for a noble population which the world can produce—genuine stubborn Scotch, and all enduring Puritanism, yet both so modified by Southern sentiment and Southern influences, from nearly a hundred years of Southern citizenship, as to make its actions of an aggressive character whilst its basis had the will and the power to endure. The old Scotch settlement has immortalized itself, and shown that her sons are the true descendants of Lochiel, Clanranald and McDonald. But what section of the State has not acted nobly?

"My own recently adopted State has kept up with any in the Confederacy. Out of 18,000 voters she has 12,000 soldiers in the field.

"The enemy, so far, make no inroads into the interior, and content themselves with the occupation of Fernandina and the St. John's river. So far, Capt. Charles P. McGary of your town, has prevented their landing at St. Marks, 20 miles below Tallanassee, though as yet they have made no heavy demonstration.

"Our *early* oat crop is splendid and much larger than usual, and in East and South Florida is nearly ready for the sickle. The late oats are affected by rust on the under blades of grass. Our corn crop is promising in the extreme, and bountiful, few of our farmers having planted cotton. Beef and hogs receive unusual attention this season. Every thing here is cheaper than in your market, except flour—that is $21 per bbl."

THE GUN-BOAT SUBSCRIPTION.—The following Circular has been received by one of the Ladies in this place who interested themselves in collecting a fund for building an iron-clad gun-boat:—

RALEIGH, May 28th, 1862.

Owing to the impossibility of building a Gunboat under present circumstances, it is proposed to devote the Gunboat Fund to some other object equally connected with the honor of the State. Several gentlemen have interested themselves and kindly offered their views upon the subject. The favorite plan with them is to appropriate the Fund to the relief of the Widows and Orphans of our Soldiers; it is a claim upon the women of the State that cannot fail to recommend itself to every heart. The Fund, however, cannot be diverted from its original purpose without the consent of the donors. I have then to make a second demand upon the patriotism of the collectors. I earnestly beg that each collector will ascertain in the way most convenient to herself whether the subscribers desire to recall or continue their subscriptions. Yours truly,

SALLY R. COLLINS.

P. S. Gen'l Martin being about to take the field, George W. Mordecai, Esq., of Raleigh, N. C., will receive the contributions hereafter.

A HARD CASE.—The Captain of a Company in camp near Greensborough publishes in the Patriot of that place the following statement:—

"Forty-eight of my men being sick with measles, I requested some friends at home to send them some delicacies, as camp-fare is too rough for the weak stomachs of men convalescent from this scourge of the army. The nicties were kindly sent to Greensborough, in a box of convenient size, and put on the cars. But Mr. Conductor comes along and kicks it off. There it now lies, and the drooping appearance of the "measles men" shows that the cruelty of that man has deprived them of a favor which none but sick soldiers can appreciate. The poor soldier may have no redress for such treatment. But they are fighting for that very rail road, and ought to receive some of its blessings."

This is truly a hard case, and if *all* the facts are stated it is calculated to excite a natural indignation against the railroad Conductor, and even the railroad itself. But is it not likely that the Conductor found a box on the cars for which no one appeared to pay freight, that he knew nothing about its contents of delicacies for sick soldiers, and that the rules which he was bound to obey obliged him to act as he did? It would not do to give Conductors the right to carry freight free of charge; and all this disappointment and ill feeling would have been prevented if somebody had paid 25 or 50 cents for the freight of the box. We have no special regard for the N. C. railroad, and know nothing of its Conductors, but are satisfied that there are two sides to the above story.

DEATHS OF SOLDIERS.—In Richmond, Va., at the Winder Hospital, on the 16th ult., Sergeant Charles W. Robertson, of the "Raleigh Rifles," of Camp Fever, in the 19th year of his age. Sergeant R. bore himself well and courageously in the battle of Williamsburg, Va.

At Camp Mangum, on the 14th ult., of measles, Wm. W. Andrews, aged 19 years, a volunteer in Capt. J. J. Davis' company, 47th Reg't N. C. Troops.

At his father's, in Wake county, on the 11th ult., Paschal Segraves, aged about 23 years, a private in Capt. O. R. Rand's company, 26th Reg't N. C Vols. He was in the battle below Newbern and fought to the last.

At the residence of his father, in Granville, on the 21st ult., Philip W. Mitchell, aged 28 years, a member of Capt. J. J. Davis' company of the 47th Regiment N. C. Troops.

At the Kinston Hospital, on the 26th of May, Robert Harvey, of the 2d Cavalry, private in Capt. B. L. Cole's company F.

At the same place, on the 16th May, John Nelson, of Company E, Capt. Andrews, of the 2d Cavalry.

At Kinston, 9th May, R. Monroe Morrison, of Iredell county, a soldier in Capt. Hill's company, aged 19 years 1 month 8 days.

At Camp Mangum, of Pneumonia, May 1, Joshua Graham, a private in Capt. Walker's company, 48th Reg.

At the Fair Grounds, near Goldsboro', May 17th, Jesse Sherrill, a private in Capt. Walker's company, 48th Reg.

In the Ligon hospital at Richmond, Va., on the 17th ult., Mr. John T. Wedding, aged 19 years, 3 months and 24 days, a member of the Flat River Guards.

At the General Hospital at Kinston, after a long and painful illness, Mr. Silas S. Dorsett, in the 22d year of his age.

At Kinston, on the 10th April, of typhoid fever, in his 22d year, private John H. Foard, of Co. E, 35th N. C. Troops.

At his home in Person county, April 25th, of typhoid fever, Bartholomew C. Foard, in his 18th year.

In Richmond, Va., on the 23d ult., Serg't John W. Fleming, of the Granville Targeteers, Co. E, 23d reg't.

At Kinston, on the 14th April, of brain fever, Daniel M. Davis. And on the 18th May, Benjamin F. Warren, both members of the Pisgah Guards, Co. I, 25th reg't.

At Camp Mangum, on the 26th of April 1862, of brain fever, George P. Parker, aged 23 years, 3d Serg't in Co. I, (Capt. McCain's) of Stanly county, 52d Reg't N. C. T.

At Camp Mangum, on the 29th ult., of typhoid fever, Wm. Fry, aged 18 years, private in Co. I, (Capt. McCain's) of Stanly county, 52d Reg't N. C. T.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

At a meeting of Company D, 23d Reg. N. C. Troops, Thos B. Ledbetter being called to the Chair, a Committee of five was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the feelings of the Company at the sad announcement of the decease of our late companions-in-arms, ROB'T D. THOMAS, MALCOM C. NICHOLSON, and WILLIS WATKINS. The following resolutions have been drawn up and approved:—

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to remove from our ranks this trio of worthy comrades; therefore be it

Resolved, That while we would cheerfully submit to the Divine Will, we can but mourn the untimely death of these noble Boys, who combined in their character alike the best qualities of christian, soldier, and friend; that in their death the Company sustains an irreparable loss, and the Country is deprived of the services of three most valuable soldiers.

Resolved, That we tender our warmest sympathies to their widowed mothers, respectively, who only can appreciate the extent of the affliction with an assurance to all their friends and relatives that they grieve not alone.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to the families of the deceased; also to the Fayetteville Observer and N. C. Presbyterian, with the request that they be published.

R. L. WEBB,
P. MASON,
J. M. COVINGTON,
J. W. COVINGTON,
H. C. WALL,
Com.

LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

The Situation at Richmond—The Valley—Corinth.—RICHMOND, May 31.—Yesterday proved very different from the universal expectation which preceded its advent. Instead of the anticipated battle or the mere preliminaries, the day glided in quietly, and save the roar of the elemental thunder, passed away in peace. The statement which gained circulation through one of our papers, that McClellan was in retreat and Gustavus Smith in pursuit, proved on inquiry to be without any authority in fact. The two armies seem still to be lying along the confronting banks of the Chickahominy, either perfecting their respective plans, or awaiting each the movement of the other.

In the afternoon there was a very severe and protracted rain-storm. It would seem probable that this storm will ordain a further truce between the two armies, for at least a few days. But calculations are very uncertain. A sudden or an unforeseen exigency may precipitate or forbid the tender of battle, when the contrary would otherwise be desirable. There is much in the relative position of the two armies which it is not permitted to the public to know, but which guides the policy of the commander. It seems absolutely impossible, however, for the present investment of Richmond, and hostile confrontation of two great armies, to terminate otherwise than in a very speedy and general engagement.

The public must meantime be patient. We cannot publish the movements of our troops—that would be unpatriotic and mischievous, and opposed to the earnest request and express injunction of our military authorities. The movements of the enemy are very difficult to ascertain. The position of McDowell is matter mainly of inference. We think it probable that Jackson's successes have arrested, if they have not reversed his steps.

From Jackson's operations in the Valley, we have nothing further. The rumors which are heard of his being in Maryland, &c., are nothing more than the speculations of persons who draw on their imagination for their facts.

From Corinth, business despatches to the government are daily received, which, by their silence as to military movements, give evidence that no important demonstration is on foot.—*Enquirer.*

RICHMOND, May 31.—A skirmish took place, yesterday, on the Williamsburg road, between four companies from the 24th Virginia and 23d N. C. Regiments, and a Federal Regiment. Our loss was five killed, including Capt. Scarboro', of N. C., and five wounded. A Yankee prisoner taken states that the loss of the enemy was heavy, including a Colonel and Major, whose names we did not learn.—*Whig.*

[Capt. Scarborough, who is reported killed, commanded the Montgomery company in the 28d regiment, having been elected Captain when the company re-organized for the war.—OBSERVER.]

Gen. Fremont's Command.—RICHMOND, May 31.—The Lynchburg "Republican" learns from a gentleman from Pendleton co., that Gen. Fremont has joined the command of Milroy, and occupies a position on the road between Petersburg, in Hardy, and Franklin, the county seat of Pendleton. The number of troops under Milroy is about 15,000. Fremont is now in a hard place, as he must advance to Monterey, towards Staunton, or retreat towards Romney into Maryland. His army is represented to be very scarce of ammunition and supplies, and no means of obtaining them.—*Enquirer.*

Burnside's Movements.—A reliable gentleman from Blackwater, Southampton county, was in Petersburg yesterday. He asserts that one or more of Burnside's gunboats had arrived there. They had landed no men, nor had they fired upon anybody or anything. Their visit was supposed to be solely for the purpose of reconnoitering. Their appearance had created a feeling of uneasiness with the people, and immense quantities of bacon were being removed to what was considered safer places of deposit.

A letter from Murfreesboro', N. C., distant but a few miles from Blackwater, to the editors of this paper, says:

"We are in the midst of excitement. The enemy have threatened our sheriff's life if he shall collect taxes."—*Petersburg Express, May 31.*

A Gallant Affair.—A company of Confederate Cavalry, the name of which we could not learn, attacked a company of Gen. Wool's Yankee Cavalry, yesterday, near Zuni Station in Southampton county, and after a sharp fight of a half hour, killed two, captured the Captain, First Lieutenant, eleven privates, and put the balance to flight. The prisoners reached here last night and were safely lodged in jail.—*Petersburg Express, 31st.*

From Portsmouth.—RICHMOND, May 31.—We understand that Gen. Wool has issued a proclamation at Portsmouth, depriving the citizens of that town of all outside communication, either with the people of the North, or with the country people round about. It is supposed that the intention of the old Yankee General is to *starve* the people into submission and *make* them take the oath of allegiance to the hated Yankee Government.—*Enquirer.*

From the South Carolina Coast.—CHARLESTON, May 30.—The intelligence from the Coast is more full of interest, and begins to wear a lively aspect. The enemy, in strong force of cavalry, infantry and artillery, supposed to be between 2 and 3000, landed near Page's Point, and advanced on Pocotaligo. They succeeded in getting within 2 miles of that station, on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, about eight miles from the Landing. Our cavalry forces, under the command of Col. Walker, met the enemy and hotly disputed their progress. The disparity of the forces, however, compelled our troops to fall back and await reinforcements.

Gen. Pemberton ordered reinforcements, and left himself for the scene of action immediately.

Their design was, no doubt, the destruction of a portion of the Railroad.

Two of the Rutledge Mounted Riflemen are reported killed, but we hope this will prove to be unfounded.

At Secessionville and Pemberton's Battery, Thursday afternoon, the enemy threw a few shell at long range into the camp of Col. C. H. Stevens, without doing any damage further than the wounding of a cavalry horse.

The engagement at Newtown's Cut, was a more serious affair. The battery at this point was manned by company F, of Col. White's Palmetto Battalion of Light Artillery. The enemy with three gunboats came up abreast the battery, and opened fire at a distance of 900 yards. The engagement lasted about three hours. No one was hurt on our side or the battery injured. One of the enemy's gunboats was disabled, the mast having been struck by a round shot from the battery. Our troops behaved admirably.

The fire from the gunboats was very accurate. The enemy no doubt designed preventing us from placing further obstructions in Stono river. The gunboats, three in number, still lay nearly abreast of the battery at Newtown Cut.—*Courier.*

CHARLESTON, May 31.—The enemy's gunboats were again engaged yesterday for about two hours, shelling around the neighborhood of Stono river. It is reported that there was also considerable musketry firing on James' Island. The work of placing obstructions in Stono river, it is thought, will be finished in a day or two, notwithstanding the attempts of the enemy to interfere with its progress.

The enemy made an attack on Fort Pemberton, and continued firing for near three hours. One horse was killed and a small building in the vicinity burnt. No person was hurt. The boats were struck several times.—*Courier.*

The Savannah Republican of Thursday says: We learn that Gen. Drayton's pickets reported about forty of the enemy's vessels at Red Bluff, coming towards the Savannah River at sunset last evening.

The War in Missouri.—A Federal telegram, from Rolla, Mo., says that a train of 17 wagons, laden with gov't stores, was overtaken when about 20 miles out on the Springfield road, by a band of rebel guerillas, who burned the wagons and contents, and carried off all the mules, 86 in number. We learn by a despatch from Jefferson City that the following Confederate officers have been captured by Brig. Gen. Totten, while they were about crossing the Missouri river in the vicinity of that city: Lieut. Col. McIlhany, of the Missouri State Guard, Lieut. Col. Rawlings, Lieut. Col. Thurman and Lieut. Col. Davis, of Gen. Steer's staff. These men are said to be emissaries from the rebel army, and were on a mission to stir up a rebellion in Missouri. They will be sent to St. Louis and committed to prison.

Petersburg Express, 31st.

Military Appointment.—Col. Robert Hatton, commanding the 7th Tennessee Regiment, has received from the Department the appointment of Brigadier, and has succeeded to the command of the Tennessee Brigade encamped near the city, Gen. Anderson, resigned. His appointment is one of the best that has been made, and we predict for him no ordinary success in his new and still more responsible position.—*Rich. Dispatch, 31st.*

The Lost Cotton.—It is stated that the English and French who owned cotton in New Orleans destroyed by the rebels, are making out their bills against the United States for their loss. England not having recognized the Southern Confederacy, and the U. S. ignoring its existence, it is said that the Governments of France and England recognize the validity of these claims, and will enforce their adjustment. It will be hard on the Yankees to lose the cotton which they so much coveted, and then be compelled to pay for it.

Gen. Early.—This officer, wounded at the battle of Williamsburg, is so far recovered as to be on the street in Lynchburg on the 29th. He has been promoted to Major General.

Postcript.

THE GREAT BATTLE BEGUN!

Desperate Fighting---Terrible Loss!

THE YANKEES BEATEN OFF THE FIELD!

The North Carolina Troops Fighting Splendidly!

The Raleigh stage, in late, brings us a letter from the Junior Editor, now in Raleigh, enclosing the following momentously important dispatches:—

From A. F. Crutchfield, Editor of the Petersburg Express.

PETERSBURG, SUNDAY MORNING.

"Battle commenced early yesterday morning, below Richmond, near Chickahominy. Gen. Hill's division made the attack; raged all day; desperate fighting both sides; fearful loss on both sides.

"We drove the enemy from his redoubts and forest; turned his own batteries upon him; took three (3) field batteries; drove him one mile and a half, and slept in his camp last night.

"No estimate of casualities; battle not decisive; will be renewed this morning. C."

The following, from a nephew of President Davis to Mrs. Davis, was received by her at 11 A. M. yesterday:

"RICHMOND, May 31, '62

MRS. JEFFERSON DAVIS: Severe engagement with the enemy this afternoon. We took their camp and entrenchments. Nothing decisive. Gen. Johnston wounded. The President in the field. All well and in good spirits. JAS. K. DAVIS."

Our Associate adds that "the news has come to B. F. M—— also, that we were whipping them "like all wrath," as Gov. M—— expresses it."

Just before the stage left he wrote as follows:—

6 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The operators here and at Richmond have been conversing. The Richmond man says that Confederate Gen. Hatton of Tenn., has been killed. But yankee prisoners are being brought in—our forces following up the successes of yesterday. Monitor, six gunboats and three transports going up James River, presumed for Drury's Bluff.

I can't get any dispatches through. E. J. H., Jr.

Thank God that so far the battle goes well, presaging a glorious victory for the Confederate arms.

It will be seen that our Gen. Hill and his North Carolina troops had the well-earned honor of leading the van in the great struggle. The Richmond operator says to the Raleigh operator that "the North Carolinians fought splendidly."

A SKIRMISH.—A friend hands us the following extract of a letter from an officer of Col. Singeltary's regiment, dated at Tarborough, May 31st:—

"Capt. Chas. M. Stedman, [of Fayetteville, commanding a Chatham company,] was sent off about 10 days ago on a scouting party, with 60 men, and he sent a despatch up yesterday reporting a fight with a force more than thrice his strength. I have not heard the matter thoroughly, but it seems he was preparing to attack a body of Cavalry in one direction, when a large infantry force appeared in the rear. He fought out, having a horse killed under him, killing 15 or 20 of the yankees, and losing in *missing* 20 men; none were seen to be killed; perhaps they were separated from the main body and afterwards rejoined it. His command was 60 infantry, whether he had any cavalry attached I don't know. Enemy's force, infantry 150, cavalry 100."

MEETING IN WAKE COUNTY.—This morning's mail brings us the following letter from a Moore county friend on a visit to Raleigh:

RALEIGH, May 31.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: A meeting of the citizens of Wake was held here to-day for the purpose of recommending a candidate for Governor and nominating candidates for the Legislature for this county.

Mr. Holden was Chairman of committee on resolutions. His report was unanimously adopted. The resolutions, except what refers to the candidates, would not be out of place if they were a part of the fundamental law of the land.

Col. Zebulon B. Vance of Buncombe was recommended for Governor. Maj. Russ was nominated for the Senate, and Henry W. Miller, —— Lawe and —— Alford were nominated for the Commons.

Mr. Holden made a very argumentative and convincing speech, and took the liberty to say, that "so certain as the first Thursday in August would arrive, Col. Vance would be elected Governor of North Carolina."

☞ A communication from "Long Grabs," at Camp Mangum, at hand too late—just before going to press.

Yankee Outrages in North Carolina.—The following is the substance of a long article in the Raleigh Journal:—

The yankees are committing great outrages in and around the town of Washington. They arrested Mr. Allen Grist, who resides in two miles of Washington, put him in prison and kept him there for several days. Mr. Grist has since been released. They arrested his ward, William Howard, a boy about sixteen years of age. There was no apparent cause for the arrests. Mr. William Grist, son of Mr. Allen Grist, was taken and tied in the road, carried to Washington and put in prison, notwithstanding the entreaties of his wife, who got upon her knees and implored them to release him. Mr. James R. Grist is made a prisoner in his own house, and a guard of yankees stationed around it. They have stopped all operations on his farm, and will not allow his negroes to go into his farm, alleging as a reason that they would interfere with their pickets. They also went to the residence of Mrs. Thos. Blount, and took off all her poultry, hogs and every thing valuable about the premises, and she had to fly from her home. Maj. Wm. B. Rodman has two farms. They have gone to each and taken the negroes and all the provisions, together with all his horses, mules, wagons and carts. They went also to the residence of Mr. Alfred Stanly, about three miles from the town, and seized him and his son, a boy 15 years old. Mr. Stanly resisted them to the last. Mr. Stanly and his son are now confined in prison. Mr. Stanly is about 60 years of age, and a brother of the Hon. Edward Stanly, of California, who, Gen. Burnside says, is to be the Provisional Governor of this State. Note the contrast between the two brothers.

YANKEE LOSS AT WILLIAMSBURG.—The Petersburg Express has seen a N. Y. Herald of the 24th May, which "admits a loss of 2,254 killed, wounded and missing, in the battle at Williamsburg, and there are two brigades —Peck's and Hancock's—which have not reported. The yankees had six brigades engaged, about 30,000 men. They claim a great victory."

Among the killed were 1 Lieut. Col., 1 Major, 1 Adjutant; wounded, 5 Colonels, 6 Lieut. Cols., 1 Major, 2 Adjutants. Missing 1 Lieut. Col.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Press writes:

The official loss of the Excelsior Brigade (Sickles's) alone was 773 dead, wounded and missing. The first regiment of this brigade lost nineteen out of twenty-seven officers who went into the fight. Five of the captains were killed and two wounded, one fatally. The regiment numbered 800 men, and now musters but 300. This is but one instance. Many other regiments suffered as severely. The loss of the New Jersey brigade is thought to be as great as that of the Excelsior.

Cheraw and Coalfields Railroad.—At a meeting of the Cheraw and Coalfields Railroad Company, on the 8th inst., the following gentlemen were elected for the present year: Col. Allan Macfarlan, President; and A. J. White, A. F. Ravenel, Rob't N. Gourdin, D. L. McKay, Thomas Smith, Caleb Coker, Wm. Godfrey, George S. Cameron, E. M. Beach, Directors.—*Chas. Courier, 30th.*

On Consignment.

5000 LBS. SHEET IRON.
2000 lbs. Bi-Carb. Soda.
2000 lbs. Sal. Soda.
1 Colt's NAVY REPEATER.

For sale by R. M. ORRELL.
June 2. 80-1mpd

Canvass—nounce N... Yadkin, Su... next Senate.

In Franklinsville, ... Kearnes, Lieut. C. GR... to Miss KATE B. WEIS...

FAYETTEVILLE M...

REVIEW OF THE ...

Beef Cattle—None coming to m...
Bacon 26.
Beeswax 22½ cts.
Corn 1 15 to 1 20.
Cotton 8 50 to $9.
Cotton Yarns $2; 4-4 Sheetings 25 by the bale; 8-4 Shirtings 20.
Cotton Bagging—30 cts.
Candles—Fayetteville mould 35.
Flour—Family 10 50, Super 10 25, Fine $10.
Hides—Dry 20; green 8.
Iron—Swedes 15 to 20 by the quantity.
Irish Potatoes—1 50 to 2 50 per bushel.
Molasses—N. O. 2 00 per gallon by retail.
Nails $15 to $16 per keg.
Rye 2 50. Oats 65.
Rice—4½ to 4½ cts. by the cask.
Sugars—30 to 35 by retail.
Salt—Sound $10 to $12 per bushel.
Spirits—Peach Brandy $8; N. C. Apple 2 50; Whiskey 1 50 to 1 75.
Spirits Turpentine 17½.
Tallow 22½.
Wool—None in market.

Corrected by PEMBERTON & SLOAN.

Public Meeting in Carthage.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Mass Meeting of the Conservatives of Moore County, will be held at the Court House in Carthage, on Saturday the 7th of June 1862, to express a preference for Governor, and to nominate a candidate for the Legislature. All who are in favor of reform in the administration of public affairs, and in favor of placing our best men in office, and opposed

OUR LATE OPERATIONS ON NEUSE RIVER—OFFICIAL REPORT OF GEN. BRANCH.

We publish below the official report of the late operations on the Neuse, by Gen. Branch, to the Adjutant General:

HEADQUARTERS 1ST DIVISION, }
In the Field, March 26, 1862. }

GENERAL: My report of the battle of the 14th, below Newbern, has been withheld until I could get a report from Col. R. P. Campbell, who commanded my right wing on that day. It is now submitted with the reports from all the commanders of regiments on the field.

A brief description of the artificial defences of Newbern, together with the enclosed sketch, will enable you to comprehend the movements of the day, which were few and simple.

The defensive works were located and constructed before I assumed command. The troops under my command had performed a large amount of work, but it was mainly on the river defences, which were not assailed by the enemy. They had originally been planned for a force much larger than any ever placed at my disposal, and I was for six weeks engaged in making the necessary changes to contract them; but the failure of all my efforts to obtain implements and tools, with which the troops could carry on the works, prevented me from making satisfactory progress. I had circulated handbills over the State, calling on the citizens generally to assist me, and received from two counties a small party of free negroes, without implements. I then inserted in the newspapers an advertisement, calling on the slave owners to hire their slaves, with implements, for a few days, and I got but a single negro. During all this time, I continued the troops at work; and when the enemy came into the river, five hundred per day were being detailed to construct breastworks, with less than half that number of worn and broken shovels and axes, without picks or grubbing hoes. If the fate of Newbern shall prevent a similar supineness on the part of citizens and slave owners elsewhere, it will be fortunate for the country.

For this reason I had been unable to complete the system I had adopted for contracting the works.

Ten miles below Newbern, on the south side of the Neuse, is the mouth of Otter Creek. From the creek, one mile above its mouth, the Croatan breastwork runs across an impracticable swamp, about three-fourths of a mile. This is a well-planned and well-constructed work, which two thousand men and two field batteries could hold against a very large force. But from the mouth of Otter creek to Fort Thompson, the lowest of the river batteries, is a distance of six miles of river shore, on any part of which the enemy could land and take the Croatan works in reverse. It is obvious that the breastwork was useless, and I had not sufficient force to hold it, and at the same time guard six miles of river shore. I have at no time been able to place four thousand men in the field at Newbern; and at the time of the battle had been seriously weakened by the re-enlistment furloughs. Coming up the river from the Croatan works, you would reach the Fort Thompson breastwork. This had been constructed from Fort Thompson to the railroad, about one mile, before I assumed command. Finding that, from inadequate force, the Croatan work might be of no avail to me, I determined to extend the Fort Thompson work about one mile and a fourth, and rest its right on a swamp. This is the work I was engaged on when the enemy appeared. In order to make the line as short as possible, and to avail myself of a small branch, by throwing it in front, the line was thrown back about 150 yards on the railroad, and thence a series of small breastworks, conforming to the features of the ground, ran off in the direction of the swamp, making an obtuse angle with the older portion of the line on the other side of the railroad. To guard this gap, I directed that the old brick-kiln on the railroad should be loopholed, and the evening before the battle I had ordered two twenty-four pounder guns to be brought from Newbern and placed in battery there. The enemy's skirmishers drove the laborers from the battery, when an hour would have enabled them to get the guns in position. Of course I lost all the benefit I expected from it. The line of small breastworks from the railroad to the swamp was partially finished for about half the distance.

Running parallel to the river, and to each other, and crossing the lines at right angles, are, first, after leaving the river, the old Beaufort road and then the railroad. Still further on, and nearer the swamp, it is crossed by the Weathersby road. The railroad and the Beaufort road intersect about two miles behind the breastwork—the former crossing the river on a bridge 1,840 feet long, at the town of Newbern—the latter at an indifferent private bridge about one and a half miles above Newbern. Both these bridges are accessible to gunboats, so that when we stood at the Fort Thompson breastwork, fronting the enemy, we had Neuse river on our left, Brice's creek, an impassable stream, on our right, and the Neuse and Trent in our rear—the only possible mode of escape, in case of a defeat, being across the two bridges I have described, five miles in our rear.

I hope this description, with the aid of the map enclosed, will put you in possession of our situation at the opening of the battle. I omitted to state that the timber had been felled in front of the breastwork for about 350 yards, and the space was swept by ten field pieces, besides three navy thirty-two pounders, discharging grape and canister from the rear face of Fort Thompson. It is useless to describe the river defences on which the larger amount of labor had been bestowed, as the enemy prudently refrained from attacking the batteries in front, and the gunboats did not come within range of their guns, until they had been silenced from the rear.

I now proceed to detail the incidents of the battle. On Wednesday, the 12th, at 4 o'clock, p. m., the approach of the enemy's fleet was reported to me, and at dark I learned that twelve vessels had anchored below the mouth of Otter creek, and about forty-five were ascending the river in their rear. Orders were issued to Col. Sinclair, 35th regiment, to proceed immediately with his regiment to Fisher's landing, which is just above the mouth of Otter creek, and to resist any attempt of the enemy to land there. Col. Avery, 33d regiment, and Lt. Col. Haywood, 7th regiment, constituting the reserve, were ordered to proceed across the river, so as to be in position at the intersection of the Beaufort road and the railroad, at day break in the morning. Col. R. P. Campbell, commanding my right wing, was instructed to guard the river shore, from the mouth of Otter creek to Fort Thompson, whilst Col. C. C. Lee, who commanded my left wing, was to guard the remainder of the shore, support the river batteries and reinforce Col. Campbell in case he should be hard pressed. Col. Campbell was instructed to establish his headquarters at the intersection of the Beaufort road and the breastwork, and to collect his troops around him by day break. Both commanders were instructed that in case it should be necessary to fall back from the river shore to the breastwork, Col. Campbell should hold that part to the right of the Beaufort road, and Col. Lee that part to the left of it.

These orders having been dispatched by 9 o'clock, p. m., the night was spent by the troops in getting into position and other preparations for the contest.

Having given all the necessary directions to staff officers and others, before 3 o'clock, Thursday morning, and seeing all the men and material forwarded from the camps and depots, at Newbern, to the breastwork, I mounted my horse and proceeded to the front. On the road I met dispatches from Col. Sinclair and Capt. P. G. Evans, commanding the pickets, informing me that the enemy were landing troops below the mouth of Otter creek; and Col. Vance was directed to send his troops to Croatan breastwork to occupy it. Railroad trains were on the spot, to carry down reinforcements or to draw off Cols. Vance and Sinclair, and Brem's battery, as the case might require.

Intelligence was soon brought to me that the enemy's gunboats, having driven Col. Sinclair's regiment from Fisher's landing, were rapidly landing troops at that place, and that Col. Campbell, seeing that the Croatan breastwork was turned, had ordered Vance, Sinclair and Brem to fall back to the Fort Thompson breastwork.

My force was wholly inadequate to guard the six miles of river shore, between the mouth of Otter creek and Fort Thompson. The result, therefore, was not wholly unexpected. But I had hoped that a line of rifle-pits, I had caused to be made for a mile along the bluffs, at and on both sides of Fisher's landing, would have enabled me to hold the enemy in check and inflict on him serious loss at the first moment of his placing his foot on our soil. I was, therefore, surprised when the position was yielded with the loss of only one killed and two wounded—all three of which casualties occurred in the retreat.

After the abandonment of Fisher's landing to the enemy, the prompt withdrawal of Vance and Brem could alone save them from being cut off, and the enemy then came into possession of my strongest work, without having received a single shot from us.

The Fort Thompson breastwork now became my sole reliance for resisting his advance, and throughout the remainder of the day and night of Thursday, the most active efforts were made to strengthen that unfinished work. Both officers and men executed my orders with unflinching energy. I was particularly indebted to Maj. Thompson and Capt. Meade, of the Engineers, to whom I assigned the duty of disposing of the artillery in the most advantageous manner. In the afternoon the gunboats shelled the breastwork heavily, from a position they had taken, out of reach of the guns of our batteries. The composure with which all classes of my troops received this attack from an unseen foe, strengthened the confidence I felt in their steadiness under fire. No damage was inflicted on us by their shells; but the accuracy with which they were thrown, over a thick, intervening woodland, convinced me of the necessity of driving traitors and enemies in disguise from all towns and neighborhoods of which we desire to hold military possession.

During the day on Thursday the troops were posted behind the entrenchments, and it was painfully apparent that my force was not sufficient to man them, even with a thin line for the finished portions of them. I was compelled to withdraw Lieut. Col. Haywood, 7th regiment, from the reserve, and place him in the lines.

The regiments were posted as follows, commencing on the left: Lieut. Col. Barber, 37th regiment, and Maj. Gilmer, 27th regiment, between Fort Thompson and the Beaufort county road; Lieut. Col. Haywood, 7th regiment, Col. Sinclair, 35th, and Col. Clark, militia, between the Beaufort road and the railroad; Col. Vance, 26th regiment, to the right of the railroad. A few unattached companies were placed between the regiments. My headquarters were about 200 yards in the rear of the entrenchments, at the railroad, and the reserve was about 200 yards in my rear. The cavalry regiment about half a mile to the rear. In this order the troops slept on their arms. At 10 o'clock, Thursday night, Col. Lee brought me intelligence that signal rockets had been seen on our extreme right, from which I inferred that the enemy having found the Weathersby road, were in front of that portion of my line. Orders were sent to Col. Vance to extend his regiment, so that its right might rest on the Weathersby road, and in an hour a section of Brem's battery was moving by a circuitous route to a position on that road; and on taking my position on Friday morning, the centre appeared so weak that I despatched my aid-de-camp to Col. Campbell to say to him that it must be reinforced if possible. At about 7½ o'clock on Friday morning, the fire opened along the line from the railroad to the river.

I soon received a message from Col. Lee that the enemy were attempting to turn our left. This proved to be a feint, as I replied to him that I thought it would. The next incident of the battle was the appearance of the enemy's skirmishers in front of Vance, and consequently on the prolongation of the line held by the militia. It was to drive the enemy from that position that I had directed the 24-pounder battery to be placed there; and supposing it was ready for service, I sent Capt. Rodman with his company to man it; but they found the guns not mounted, and were placed into position to act as infantry. The skirmishers of the enemy, finding themselves on the flank of the militia, fired at them a few shots from their flank files, which caused a portion of them to flee in great disorder.

I instantly ordered Col. Avery to send five companies to dislodge them. He sent them instantly, under Lieut. Col. Hoke; but before Col. Hoke had gotten into position, though he moved with the greatest promptness and celerity, I received a message from Col. Clark, of the militia, informing me that the enemy were in line of battle in great force on his right. I instantly ordered up the remaining five companies of Col. Avery's regiment, and the whole ten opened a terrific fire from their Enfield rifles. The whole militia, however, had now abandoned their position, and the utmost exertions of myself and my staff could not rally them. Col. Sinclair's regiment very quickly followed the example—retreating in the utmost disorder.

This laid open Haywood's right, and a large portion of the breastwork was left vacant. I had not a man with whom to occupy it, and the enemy soon poured in a column along the railroad and through a portion of the cut down ground in front, and marched up behind the breastwork to attack what remained of Campbell's command.

The brave 7th met them with the bayonet, and drove them headlong over the parapet, inflicting heavy loss upon them as they fled. But soon returning with heavy reinforcements—not less than five or six regiments—the 7th was obliged to yield, falling back slowly and in order.

Seeing the enemy behind the breastwork, without a single man to place in the gap through which he was entering—finding the day lost, my next care was to secure the retreat. This was a critical operation, as the enemy, having pierced our centre, had possession of the two shortest roads to the bridges, and, besides, could approach them at pleasure with their gunboats.

Having dispatched two couriers to Col. Avery, and two to Col. Vance, with orders for them to fall back to the bridges, I moved to the intersection of the Beaufort road and railroad, to rally the troops and cover the retreat across the bridges. Here I found a train of cars with the 28th regiment, Lieut. Col. Lowe, who had arrived too late to reach the battle field, and formed them to hold the enemy in check until all should pass. Col. Lee was directed to proceed to Newbern and form all the men he could collect, in the upper part of the town. The 7th regiment arriving in two different parties, was directed to the Trent bridge and hold it, whilst I remained with Lt. Col. Lowe at the intersection,